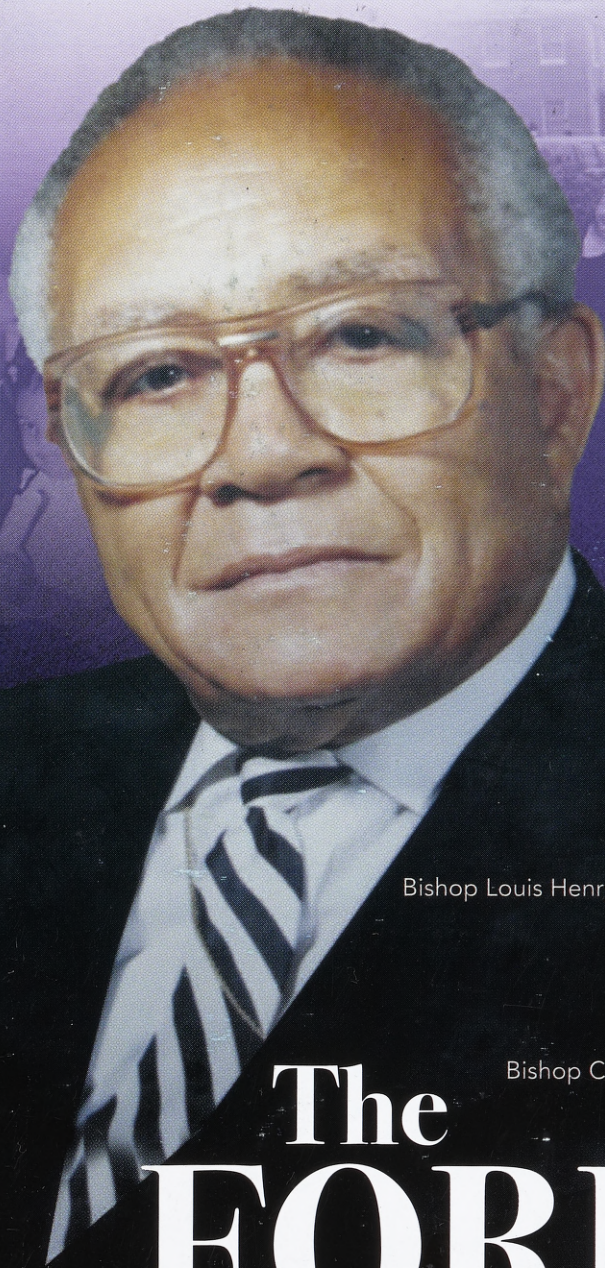
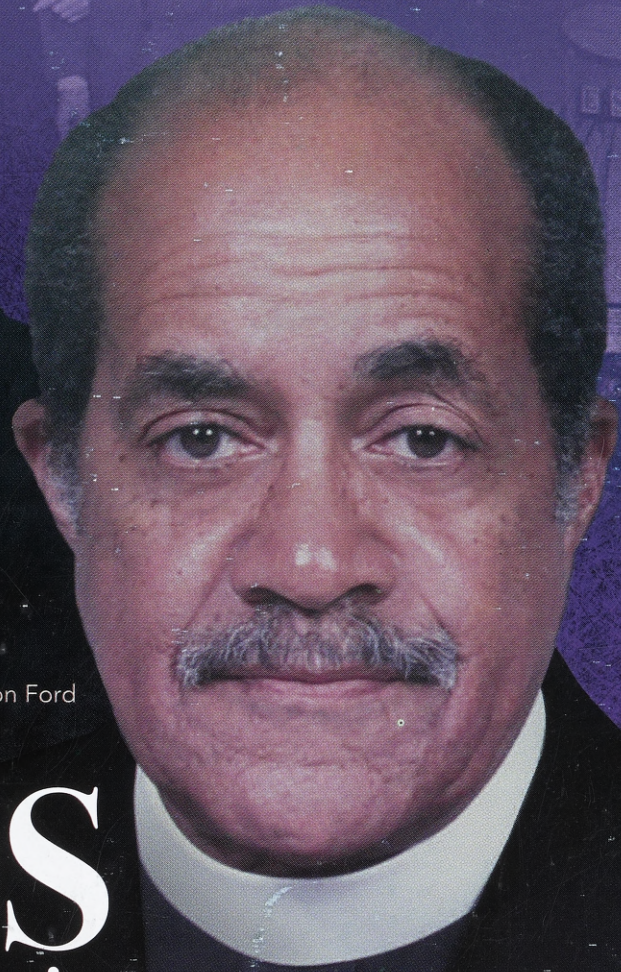


the **WHOLE** *Truth*

THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST, INC.



Bishop Louis Henry Ford



Bishop Charles Mason Ford

The **FORDS** A Legacy of Service

Notice to all Delegates from Bishop Mason
General Assembly Agenda

NOVEMBER 2012 | VOL 11 | NO. 6

NOTICE!

THE 24th ANNUAL CONVOCATION of the CHURCHES OF GOD IN CHRIST will CONVENE at 958 So. FIFTH ST. "NATIONAL TABERNACLE," MEMPHIS TENN., NOVEMBER 25th 1931, LASTING 20 DAYS OR MORE, AS THE LORD LEADS.

The object of this meeting is to pray the Kingdom of God to come into the hearts of men. That His peace and glory might be the portion of all nations. -Hos. 1:7. We have pleasure in advising that all Overseers and Pastors will supply delegates with identification certificates so that round trip tickets may be purchased at reduced rates. Ask for them. Selling dates as follows:

Southeastern Territory, such as Alabama, Georgia, Florida, Louisiana, east of Mississippi, Kentucky, North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia, West Virginia. -Nov. 23, 24, 25, 26; Dec. 1, 2, 5 and 6. Final return limit Dec. 20.

Southwestern as follows: Arkansas, Kansas, Louisiana, Missouri, also Natchez, Miss. Dates of sale: Nov. 23, 24, 25, 26; Dec. 1, 2, 5 and 6. Final return limit Dec. 20. Oklahoma and Texas, Nov. 22, 23, 24, 25, 30, Dec. 1, 2, 5. Return limit Dec. 21.

Canadian Lines, as follows: Nov. 23-26, Dec. 1, 2, 5 and 6. Return limit Dec. 20.

Trunk Lines: New York (east of Buffalo and Salamanca), New Jersey, Pennsylvania (east of Erie, Oil City and Pittsburg), Delaware, Maryland, District of Columbia, Virginia and West Virginia (east of Wheeling, Parkersburg and Kenova), as follows: Nov. 23, 24, 25 and 26; Dec. 1, 2, 5 and 6. Return limit Dec. 20.

Western States: Colorado (Julesburg only), Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Manitoba Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Michigan, North Dakota, South Dakota, Wisconsin. Selling dates, Nov. 23-26 Dec. 1-6 incl. Final return limit Dec. 20.

Colorado (except Julesburg), New Mexico, Wyoming. Dates as follows: Nov. 22, 23, 24, 25, 30; Dec. 1, 4 & 5. Final return limit Dec. 21.

Montana, Southern Idaho, Utah, Nov. 21, 22, 23, 24, 29, 30; Dec. 3 & 4. Final return limit Dec. 22. Arizona, British Columbia, Nevada, Northern Idaho, Oregon, (except via California), Washington, Nov. 21, 22, 23, 24, 29, 30; Dec 3 & 4. Final return limit Dec. 25.

California, Nov. 20, 21, 22, 23, 28, 29; Dec. 2 & 3. Final return limit, Dec. 25.

Oregon (via California), Nov. 19, 20, 21, 22, 27, 28; Dec. 1 and 2. Final return limit Dec. 25.

Officer issuing certificates: Mrs. Elia V. Sparks, 820 N. MONTGOMERY ST., MEMPHIS, TENN.

Each Church is asked to raise a Food Offering and sent to the meeting. Send all foodstuff to Elder E. M. Page 958 South 5th St., Memphis, Tenn.

Aside from dollar per member, each auxiliary is asked to report as follows: Sunday Schools \$5.00; Y. P. W. \$5.00; Bible Bands \$5.00; Sewing Circles \$5.00; Home and Foreign Mission Bands \$5.00; Sunshine Bands \$3.00.

Let all remember our Chief Apostle in a large manner on the report blanks. Overseers' personal donation to our Chief Apostle, \$10.00, Pastors \$5.00.

In sending monies, please state whether for Eld. Mason, Foodstuff or Expense of Meeting.

On arriving in city, catch Jackson Avenue car No. 15, Transfer to South Wellington Street car. Get off at Wellington St., and Long Ave. Walk one and one-half blocks to the Tabernacle.

First three days fasting and prayer. All join in the fast. All are welcome in Jesus' name.



Every Pastor is expected to see that his Congregation do their part in the meeting.
Elder C. H. Mason, Senior Bishop.
1121 Mississippi Ave.

Memphis, Tennessee

Pastor Ron R. Owens

Sr. Editor, Whole Truth



It is with a sense of sincere pride and honor to present to you the 2012 Convocation Edition of *The Whole Truth Magazine*. For more than eighty-six years this periodical has been a part of the annual gathering of the Saints.

In this edition we present to you a wide perspective of the Church. There are stories that inform and stories that inspire. The stories reveal that we are yet a peculiar people and a royal priesthood whose message and ministry is expressed through the antiquities of our founder, Bishop Charles Harrison Mason. As you engage and peruse its pages, it is my sincere prayer that you will enjoy and be informed. And may you live to expect that there is nothing too hard for God.

Sincerely yours,

Ron Owens

Pastor Ron Owens
Editor In Chief
The Whole Truth Magazine

the **WHOLE** Truth

WINTER 2012

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What Does The Future Hold?

More literature, larger contributions

- Contribution to National Church over **\$400,000.00**
- Increase Revenue by more than **\$1,500,000.00**
- Sales Exceed **\$4,000,000.00** first time in Church History

Attorney, John W. Daniels, Jr.
Publishing House Chairman

As the former Chief Executive Officer of the Church Of God In Christ Publishing House, I am proud to speak of my fellowship and ministry with Attorney John Daniels. Attorney Daniels has exemplified

the faithfulness and splendid quality that serving God's people demands. He stepped into the challenges of religious publications and offered the business skills and faith practical ministry the Organization needed. It has not been an

easy job; nonetheless, he proved equal to the task and more. It must be said of Brother Daniels, "He was the right man at the right time." Furthermore, he excelled beyond all expectations, making employees and the ministry

2009

- Complete unified business plan put together for bookstore and publishing house with strategic assignments of business objectives
- Institution of strict budgetary limitations
- National search for third party partner/publisher and engagement of UMI for publishing board
- Execution of UMI contract with state-of-the-art terms protective of COGIC
- Meeting with various constituents, including Board of Bishops and commitment to the "Change Is On"
- **First complete and full audit in COGIC history**

Vickie Burse
Chief Operating Officer



2010

- Re-launch The Whole Truth (The official magazine of the COGIC)
- Commence work on new product development and commentary
- Hire and engage world class staff and marketing editing curriculum and the like
- Initiate work on development of robust technology platform, including state-of-the-art website and telephonic applications
- Launch efforts to initiate archives for preservation of most important COGIC artifacts
- **Relaunch Sunday School Material**
- Instituted COGIC Stores @ every major convention
- Hiring of Chief Operating Officer to complement CEO,



Re-launch
The Whole Truth Magazine



Re-launch
Sunday School Material

2009

**CONTRIBUTION OF \$0
TO THE NATIONAL CHURCH**

2010

**CONTRIBUTION OF \$50,000.00
TO THE NATIONAL CHURCH**

eHold?

ns better services and more scholarships.

more productive. Presiding Bishop Charles Blake could not have picked better!

I personally watched how in a reasonably short time he envisioned and produced a Church Of God In Christ Publishing House that prospered as never before. The Publishing House has been the historic and most prominent business in the Organization. The term *leadership* is applicable when giving consideration for Attorney Daniel's efforts. The diligence, through which he guided a new and fledgling Publishing Board that provided expanded opportunities for training and educating the Saints, must be lauded. The General Church needed his steady and humble spirit, but on the

other hand needed his determination and personal will to make our business ready for the future.

Now after four years of service, he and the Publishing Board have delivered financial contributions and in-house publishing to serve the organization. He has remodeled the publishing building, expanded staffing, developed customer service, and marketed new products. God is pleased, and so are the Saints of the Church Of God In Christ.

Apostle Paul wrote the Church at Galatia the following words, "As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith"

(Galatians 6:10). This was my opportunity to do good, and I hope Brother John Daniels continues to faithfully perform the work that God has given him. May these words provide him inspiration and joy. He is not a man that needs more mountains to climb, battles to fight, or campaigns to wage, but if asked, he will accomplish the mission. Congratulations Attorney Daniels!

Bishop David Allen Hall, Sr.
Special Advisor to the Publishing Board
Prelate, Tennessee Headquarters Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction

2011

- State-of-the-art archives exhibit with historical exhibits at 2011 convocation
- Record distribution of products with timely delivery
- Instituted on-site visits to jurisdictions to communicate new product development and to solicit advice
- Developed state-of-the-art website and smart phone "App" (YES) for members



Historical Exhibit

State-of-the-art archives

Developed the App (YES)

Smart Phone Application



2012

- Opening of Winbush Pictorial Archive Exhibit in Memphis, housing thousands of historical photos of COGIC
- Initiation of Scholars of Abundance reaching hundreds of COGIC college scholars with scholarships provided to youth - university COGIC students featured on literature and the *Whole Truth* -- contributions of \$65,000.00 to effort
- Collaboration in support of initiatives with several other COGIC departments, including Women's Department, scholarship initiative, COGIC Charities and General Assembly
- Retired Entire Mortgage debt on Publishing House

Scholars of Abundance

COGIC College Scholars



2011

CONTRIBUTION OF \$100,000.00
TO THE NATIONAL CHURCH

2012

CONTRIBUTION OF \$250,000.00
TO THE NATIONAL CHURCH



**Return Bishop
Nathaniel W. Wells, Jr.
to a 4th term on
The General Board**

The Mandate to Return to the PRESIDIUM

Bishop Nathaniel Wyoming Wells, Jr.

Return Me to serve a Fourth term on the General Board of our Great Church. Because of My Love for GOD, Loyalty to The Church of God in Christ, and My Personal Conviction; I will Faithfully Represent the Presidium by Focusing on the following:

1. Work in Harmony with COGIC Leadership to uphold our Doctrine, and the Covenant that God made with Bishop C. H. Mason.
2. Support, Promote and Encourage, Continued Commitment to Our Historic Roots, and Spiritual Disciplines of HOLINESS, FASTING, and PRAYER.
3. Support Programs that Encourage Harmonious Work between the Executive, Judicial and Legislative Branches of the Church.
4. Encourage, Build Consensus and Support the Development of Financial Managerial Practices that Promote Fiscal Integrity, Implementation of Audits, and Accreditation of COGIC Financial Administrative Process.
5. Work with the Presiding Bishop, General Board, and the General Assembly to build a Consensus for Continued Program Development in the areas of:
 - Convocation, Convention and Event Planning
 - Church Growth and Leadership Development
 - Urban Development and Para Church Initiatives

Because some things are worth doing again!"

Encore!

**"For An In-Touch
Incumbent"**

SPIRITUALLY

*Developing local church pastors and
multi-generational lay leaders.*

FINANCIALLY

*Upholding the highest principles of accountability,
compliance and fiscal integrity; restoring honor
and trust to leadership across the brotherhood.*

STRUCTURALLY

*Promoting the spirit of unity, purpose and global
progress amongst the local church, district,
jurisdictional and national Church.*

CONSTITUTIONALLY

*Affirming the integrity of our constitution, the
visionary leadership of our Presiding Bishop and
the five-star synergy of the General Board.*

PROGRAMMATICALLY

*Promoting Jesus' example of making people the
central focus of every program.*

Bishop Frank Otha White

FOR THE GENERAL BOARD...ENCORE!

Bishop's Conference 2012

Detroit, Michigan

When leaders worship, things happen

Photos by Carl Pierce, Jr



LtoR: Mother Sheard, Evangelist Karen C. Sheard



Bishop Brandon Porter and Bishop A. LaDell Thomas, Jr.



Bishop B. A. Sanders



Bishop Nathaniel Wells



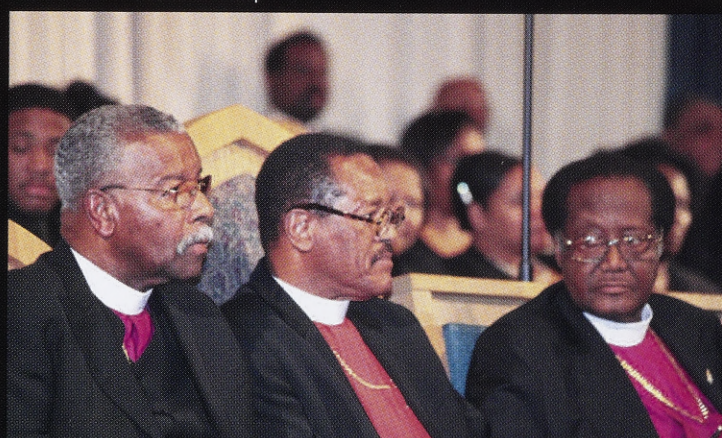
Saints in worship



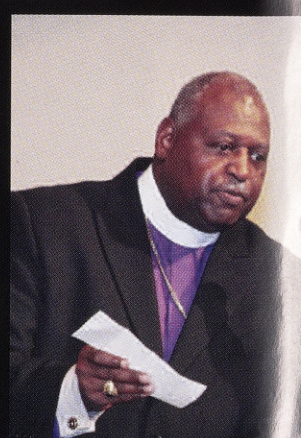
Bishop Lemeul Thuston



General Board Member Sedgwick Daniel, Bishop Felton Smith, Prelate, Tennessee Eastern First



LtoR: Bishop John H. Sheard, Chairman, Board of Bishops, Presiding Bishop Charles E. Blake, Sr., Bishop P. A. Brooks, First Assistant Presiding Bishop



Bishop Felton Smith, Prelate, Tennessee Eastern First



Bishops in worship



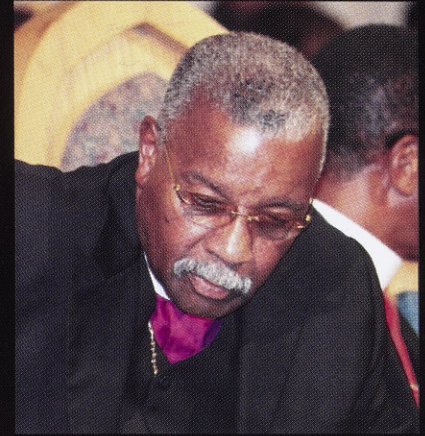
LtoR: Bishop Samuel Green, Bishop Nathaniel Wells



LtoR: Bishop Blake, Bishop Brooks, Bishop White



Bishop Welton Lawrence & Bishop James Nevells



Bishop John H. Sheard



LtoR: Bishop P. A. Brooks, Bishop J. N. Haynes



Young people from Holy Redeemer COGIC



Supervisors in worship



College of Bishops



LtoR: Bishop Sedgwick Daniels, General Assembly Chairman, Supt. James Hunt, Supt. George Davis, Platform Coordinator, Elder Philipp Green (in background)



Wisdom from the Bosom

By Supervisor Diana Banks



Holy greetings to all the Saints and friends of *The Whole Truth Magazine*! For the past year, I have enjoyed sharing "Life's How To" as your column writer for *Wisdom From The Bosom*. We have discussed topics on "Mentoring The Best Kept Secret (Valuing Diversity of Gifts)"; heard testimonies of great women who have served this church for decades on "Aging Gracefully (Mother Lucille Spann); "Overcoming Sickness Victoriously" (Mother Charlotte Brandon); "Using Technology For Excellence in Ministry" (Dr. Sheary Johnson); and recognized "Unsung Heroes of the Faith": Supervisors Charlotte Eades and Vivian Wooden.

I asked myself what would be equally as exciting as the testimonies of these dynamic and innovative women who have willingly shared strategies to help us become better servants for the Lord. My mind immediately recalled a lesson I learned in "Faith," taught by a man of wis-

dom: Superintendent Louis Bishop of Saginaw Michigan, while his wife was dying in CCU at a hospital in Flint, Michigan. There is an old saying "Documentation beats Conversation"... so I dedicate this edi-



**Supt. Louis & Portia Bishop
Saginaw, Michigan**

tion to Superintendent Bishop and his deceased wife (Portia). The story continues... When I arrived to visit Lady Portia Bishop, who happens to be a family member of mine, I expected to see a man distraught with pain over the sudden illness of his wife

that eventually took her home to be with the Lord. Instead amazingly, I encountered a man of wisdom with a smile on his face, saying, "To God is the Glory for the things He has done and the life He has given me and my wife!" Not, a tear nor a doubt, but a man who says to me with confidence, "the fact of the matter is she is in a coma, but the God we serve is able to turn things around in a moment and a twinkling of an eye." Superintendent Bishop said to me three simple words to describe his faith in God, "Faith Reverses Facts."

The world may not understand this statement, but the true believers (Saints) understand that earth has no sorrow or pain that Heaven cannot heal! You see it became painfully clear that my loved one would die, but the beauty of death for her was to live again with Christ Jesus. For the Bible is clear: "To be absent from the body is to be present with the Lord." (2 Corinthians 5:8)

(Wisdom from the Bosom continued on page 12)

VOTE BISHOP TED G. THOMAS, SR. TO THE GENERAL BOARD

LEADERSHIP
We Need

ECCLESIASTICAL SERVICE

Church Of God In Christ, Inc.

- Co- Dean, Episcopal Leadership Academy
- Justice, National Judiciary Board
- Operations Commissioner, International Holy Convocation
- Secretary, National Board of Bishops (20 years)
- Member, National Publishing Board



CARVER MEMORIAL CEMETERY

It's Time To Pass The
MANTLE



 STABILITY

 WISDOM

 INTEGRITY

 FAITHFULNESS

 TRANSPARENCY



THE FIRST 100 YEARS

by O. Wiggins



It began in a single living room, moved to an abandoned gin house along a little creek and now has expanded to every continent around the world.

Indeed, the Church Of God In Christ has made significant strides since its inception in 1897 when Elder Charles H. Mason, Elder C.P. Jones and others brought 60 people together as charter members to form the Church of God, and subsequently the Church Of God In Christ.

Today, about six million people fill the pews of Church Of God In Christ churches, making it the nation's largest black Pentecostal body and the fourth largest Protestant body in the country.

As the Church marks nearly 105 years as an incorporated body and continues into the next century, it's worth reflecting on the Church's past, it's present and it's future. In an interview earlier this year with

of the in filling of the Holy Spirit and the sign and seal of speaking in other tongues.

He said the Church emerging as a holiness group in 1897 was significant, but, "I think our distinctive contribution has been made in the area of advocating and propagating the doctrine of the baptism of the Holy Ghost."

And the one thing that originally made the Church different is also the one thing that ultimately led to its division.

Elder Mason returned from Los Angeles, California, after receiving the Holy Ghost, looking forward to proclaiming the New Testament doctrine and incorporating it in the Church.

But some of his fellow ministers mocked the Holy Ghost experience, which led to a separation in the body.

cogic.com, Presiding Bishop Charles E. Blake said the most defining historical moment for the Church was in 1907 when Bishop Mason organized the Church Of God In Christ around the doctrine

Elder Mason was removed by the General Assembly, but he kept the incorporated name of the Church and called a meeting in Memphis, Tennessee, of all ministers who believed in the baptism of the Holy Ghost.

It became the first Pentecostal General Assembly of the Church, and Elder Mason was unanimously chosen to become Bishop Mason - the General Overseer and Chief Apostle of the denomination. In that role, he was given authority to establish doctrine, organize auxiliaries and appoint overseers, according to church historians.

David Daniels, the chair of the Education Board for the Church Of God In Christ and the Henry Winters Luce Chair of World Christianity at McCormick Theological Seminary, said the governance of the Church in 1907 consisted of the senior bishop, the General Assembly and the overseers over the states.

"Even then there was the idea that all the power could not be in the hands of the bishop and overseers, but that the General Assembly, which was known as the Elders Council, served as the place for putting people on trial for ethics, infractions or setting policies for the church," he said.

After being named General Overseer, Bishop Mason dedicated 20 days - Nov. 25 through Dec. 14 - each year to fellowship and conduct business pertaining to the national organization.

FOUNDER'S DAY

Continued SUNDAY Nov. 12th



OUR PURPOSE ...

- 1 MACHINERY FOR PUBLISHING HOUSE
- 2 BEAUTIFY MASON TEMPLE
- 3 GENERAL CHURCH EXTENS

PROGRESS
... But By My Spirit.
Zechariah 4:6

The annual meeting continues in November.

“Dad Mason sanctified those dates. He called it a Holy Convocation,” said Bishop Nathaniel W. Wells, a member of the **General Board**. “Most of the other denominations have a convention. But this was for a sacred purpose. He was calling together God’s people to a holy place to remember the Holy Ghost experience. We became a holy pentecostal church.”

Raynard Smith, who teaches pastoral care at New Brunswick Theological Seminary and attends Greater Harvest Evangelistic Church Of God In Christ in Newark, New Jersey, said Bishop Mason created a “sacred space for all people, but particularly African Americans” when the Church was originally formed.

“This was a time when people were being dehumanized outside the church,” he said, referring to the early days of Church. “But inside, they were called saints. And not just saints, but saints of the most High God.”

Bishop Blake told cogic.com that he sees “the church standing by its foundational teachings and doctrines” as it moves into the future.

“I see the church continuing to worship and love our God with passion and with fervor,” Bishop Blake said. “And I see us pursuing the mission of the church, which is to win the lost, to edify the believer and to bring glory to our God.”

Meanwhile, there are those who worry that the Church has strayed away from what Bishop Mason intended for it. And others who say the Church is grappling with holiness in the 21st century.

David Daniels said one of the biggest challenges facing the Church is “how to find a profound way of talking about holiness in the 21st century. That’s our struggle.”

Bishop Wells said he thinks Bishop Mason would be unhappy with what he would see of today’s Church.

“What I see happening is that we are moving away from our holiness roots, becoming more charismatic,” he said. “People are being saved, but their lives are not sanctified.” Bishop Wells said the shift in focus has caused “so much immorality toward us. Lawsuits coming against us.” Raynard Smith agreed that some would probably say Bishop Mason would be displeased with the Church and others, he said, might say Bishop Mason might not even recognize the Church of today.

There was a time when the Church was against going to the movie theater and women wearing make-up, jewelry and pants, he said.

“The church is] not bad, it’s just different,” he said. “The church has evolved. The church should evolve. It’s not that we have conformed to the standards of the world. It’s just an evolution.”

Raynard Smith said the Church leaders continue to fight for social justice, much like Bishop Mason did. For example, Bishop Blake has made public pronouncements on the debt ceiling, healthcare and Haiti just as Bishop Mason called on the Church to boycott the buses and spoke against wars.

“The problem today is that we don’t have a forum to make people aware of that fight,” Raynard Smith said. “Bishops need to be informed so that filters down from the jurisdictions to our local churches.”

Bishop Blake told cogic.com in February that he expects technology to play a huge role in advancing the Church’s mission.

“I see us doing most of our educational endeavors on the internet and online,” he said. “I see us streaming our conventions and our church services online, impacting the world in a very targeted way.”

Bishop Wells said he likes the idea of incorporating technology into the church’s mission and he thinks Bishop Mason would be pleased with the Church’s use of technology. Still, he said: “With all the technology, I just hope we don’t lose the spirituality.”

“Faith Reverses Facts!”

— Superintendent Louis Bishop

(Wisdom from the Bosom continued from page 8)

Faith does reverse facts, the world calls death the end, but for the Saints the fact of the matter, death is just a new beginning; it is the transition from earth to glory and from death to eternal life with Jesus Christ. O’ how glad I am to have heard “Faith Reverses Facts!” With every new situation encountered I look beyond the facts and tell myself, “Faith has the power to reverse the Facts!”

The facts say, we are in the end times, and the Bible reminds us that perilous times shall come and men will be lovers of themselves more than of God, proud, boastful, heady, high-minded, rebellious, disobedient and just plain wicked. Furthermore, in the last days men and women will be as in the day of Noah: giving in marriage, doing what is right in their own eyes, practicing sexual wickedness: men loving men, women loving women with unnatural affections, children would be rebellious and disobedient to parents (fathers against sons, daughters against their mothers), all of these things are happening every day in America. These are the facts, however, let not your heart be troubled, knowing this that the hour of our departure is nearer than when we first believed. We must gird ourselves up and to take on the mind of Christ as never before. Saints it is high time that we awake out of sleep and make full proof of the ministry of reconciliation which God has given to us and do the work of an evangelist, working for our Father while it is day for the night cometh and no man or woman will be able to work.

For our faith can reverse the ills of society. The fact of the matter the world is moving in the wrong direction, but we serve a God who is able to turn things around, for 2 Chronicles 7:14, provides us the antidote for the world today: “If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my

face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land.” For, we serve a God who can do exceedingly abundant above all we can ask or think, according to the power (Faith) that worketh in us (Ephesians 3:20).

The fact remains we are in spiritual warfare, but our weapons of warfare are not carnal, they are mighty through God to the pulling down of strongholds (2 Corinthians 10:4). Our Faith becomes a weapon that can quench all the fiery darts of the wicked. Then we can do all things through Christ that strengthens us (Philippians 4:13).

By Faith as believers in Christ Jesus, instead of gloom and doom, we see victory and prosperity, we see healing not death, for we sorrow not as the world who has no hope; we see children who obey their parents for this is right, we see congregations coming out of the sanctuary and hitting the street corners to redeem the time and reaching out for the lost souls of drug addicts and prostitutes; homeless and mentally challenged individuals no longer sitting on the park bench, but sitting in our congregations clothed and in their right minds! We see the gang bangers crying out, “What must I do to be saved?” Why do we see these things..., because the blood of Jesus still works! As the “true” disciples of Jesus Christ, we must know all things are possible to them that believe, standing on the Word of God, that whatsoever we ask in faith the Lord shall do it, not that you and I get any glory, but that men will see our good works and glorify our Father which is in Heaven! (Matthew 5:16).

Saints, we are armed and dangerous when we carry the Word of God, not knives and guns. Satan knows that our faith can reverse facts, thus he will continue to try and depress and oppress us to keep us from looking up to the hills from whence cometh our help, for our help cometh from the

Lord (Psalm 121:2). I want to encourage you to stay on your face before God, study His Word, go back to fasting, and pray without ceasing as a matter of fact, P-U-S-H (Pray Until Something Happens) and continue to use the blood of Jesus. In your faith there is power, power to speak those things that are not as though they were, power to lift up Jesus Christ, who said, “if I be lifted up from the earth I will draw all men unto me” (John 12:32).

Faith Reverses Facts...I challenge you to use faith to reverse not only the facts of your own household, but remember that we are our brother’s keeper, therefore use your faith to speak the truth in love into the lives of others; find someone to mentor, to encourage, and to esteem.

Tell everybody this Fact: Jesus Christ loves them, He bled and died, hung on a cross called Calvary to give them an opportunity to have their sins forgiven and to live with Him forever. By Faith: Believe that Jesus Christ was the only begotten Son of God, and that He gave His life so that whosoever believeth in Him shall not perish, but have everlasting life (John 3:16). Tell them if they will repent, God will forgive them and they can be born again and made whole through the precious blood of Jesus Christ! That’s good news!!!

Again, a special thank you to Superintendent Louis Bishop, Pastor of All Nations Prayer Tower in Saginaw, Michigan, who is still pastoring at the wonderful age of 91 years old, under the leadership of Bishop Samuel Duncan, Prelate of Michigan Southwest Jurisdiction, for helping me put my faith back in perspective with three simple words: “Faith Reverses Facts!” If you have enjoyed “Wisdom From The Bosom” e-mail me at drdianabanks@aol.com and share your comments!

Your General Board Candidate
Bishop Dwight L. Green, Sr.

*Prelate, Republic of South Korea Jurisdiction
Former Chairman, National Trustee Board
Chairman, Pontotoc LLC for COGIC
Pastor, Holiness Tabernacle COGIC*



Bishop Samuel L. Green, Jr.
Retiring General Board Member

Bishop Dwight L. Green, Sr.
Candidate

Continuing A Family Legacy

of holiness, integrity, accountability, and dependability

...this is my covenant with them, saith the Lord, My Spirit that is upon thee and my words which I have put in your mouth, shall not depart out of thy mouth, nor out of the mouth of thy seed, nor out of the mouth of thy seed's seed, saith the Lord...

Isaiah 59:21

God bless the Saints of the Church of God in Christ

THE NEXT 100 YEARS

By Evangelist Shondell Douglas and Regericka Brewer

I am the face of the next 100 years



As we reviewed the history, we noted that over a century ago in the 'Gin House' located in Lexington Mississippi, Bishop Charles Harrison Mason established not only a denomination, but ignited a revolution.

Bishop C. H. Mason and the earlier Saints tarried until they were endowed and filled by the power of the Holy Spirit. This conversion experience didn't just revolutionize the manner of which folk should worship, but also how they should live.

Resounding from his rostrum was the message of 'Sanctification' and 'Holiness.' It wasn't enough to simply verbalize Christian allegiance, but he required the Saints to have an 'outward display' of the transforming power of God shown in their everyday lives.

Scripture refer to those sent to carry a message into the world as 'Apostles' (apóstolos). The Apostles went about carrying the "Good News" and planting churches. So, would it be appropriate to refer to our

founder as Apostle?

Bishop Charles H. Mason was appointed to go and as a result of his obedience the Church was planted, making way to rightfully call Bishop Mason 'Apostle.'

Leaving a legacy, the mantle of leadership was bestowed upon the Bishopric, whom since ushered the Church Of God In Christ into the 21st Century and will continue to do so within the "Next 100 Years".

The book of Saint Mark of the Holy Bible, the 16th chapter, verses 17-18, embodies Bishop Charles H. Mason's vision and mission for believers who wanted to be filled or endowed with the Holy Spirit.

Being well noted for hosting such fiery revivals, healing, deliverance and the speaking in new tongues, the organization of the Church accentuates the doctrine of sanctification and the outpouring of the Holy Spirit, as it relates to the foundation for the vision and mission of the Church.

With reference to Bishop Mason's

legacy, vision, mission, evolution, and progression of the Church in the 'Next 100 years', we interviewed five Church Of God In Christ (COGIC) Leaders: Elder Justin D. Edwards (Houston, TX); Pastor Oscar Benton, Jr. (Albany, GA); Evangelist Barachias Irons (Memphis, TN); Evangelist Shondell Douglas (Houston, TX); and Superintendent Stenneth E. Powell (Raleigh, NC).

Our questions were, "What is your understanding on Bishop Mason's vision and mission for the Church? How has the Church 'stayed' or 'strayed' from that vision and mission?" Evangelist Douglas responded by saying, "Bishop Mason was a man of integrity and his mission was to lead and empower the people by the Holy Spirit." Evangelist Irons replied, "Bishop Mason's vision was to reach the people through Jesus Christ and we have to continue to stay true to the vision by taking the Gospel to help the people (i.e. Bishop Blake's Urban Initiatives)."

Among the five core areas of the Urban Initiatives, Bishop Blake addresses the access, excellence and equality of education. Elder Edwards describes education as being the key in sustaining the moral fiber of our church for the 'Next 100 years.' Especially for the COGIC preacher, he states, "We need to get back to the miracles, signs and wonders while remaining relevant to the present age. The youth should seek education beyond high school and mirror themselves behind scholarly AND anointed men and women of God."

This exemplifies the essence of staying true to Bishop Mason's "brand", while em-



“ We need to get back to the miracles, signs and wonders while remaining relevant to the present age. The youth should seek education beyond high school and mirror themselves behind scholarly AND anointed men and women of God. ”

— Elder Edwards

bracing the present Urban Initiatives and embarking upon the future. According to Acts 26:18, “It is not good that the soul be without knowledge.” Therefore, without education both church and society will suffer. So, education will play a major role in the 'Next 100 years.'

While pursuing access, excellence and “equality” in education, one must consider modern liberation and the roles of women in the COGIC church in the 'Next 100 years.' To be liberated means to seek equal rights and status within a group.

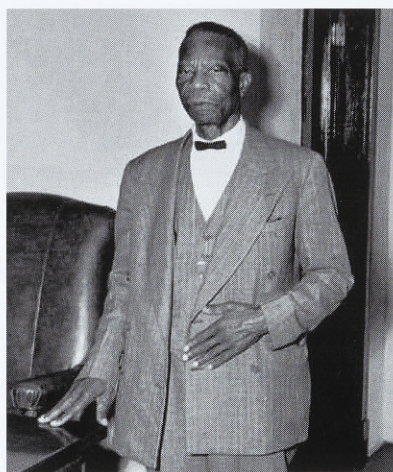
Since the inception of COGIC, traditionally, men have carried the torch of leadership, however, under the late Bishop Gilbert Earl Patterson, there was a paradigm shift which gradually expanded the leadership roles of women.

Pastor Benton remarks, “Bishop Mason prepared a platform for men and women in ministry and would have embraced the Daughters of Zion, because whom God calls He qualifies.” Whereas Superintendent Powell says, “Anything that we embrace or accept must be covered in the Scriptures, and that there isn't biblical Scripture to support the ordination of women.”

But according to Evangelist Irons, “Women play a vital part in this institution.

Bishop Mason appointed Mother Lizzie Robinson to organize the women's work. We are really privileged women in the COGIC and with an open door to share the Gospel.”

Many are content with the current roles of women in the Church, but there are



a select group of women who believe they've been called by God to ordained ministry.

The fact is that many women silently serve as pastors and elders within the Church, but are not recognized on the “national level”.

But our question is, does liberation really have a place in the church and in the roles of women, or, are women only intended to operate as teachers, evangelists

and prophetess?

In light of Bishop Charles H. Mason's 'Brand' and the current Presiding Bishop Blake's 'Urban Initiatives,' is the COGIC church positioning herself to be sustained in the 'Next 100 Years'?

Forward thinking about the state of the COGIC church requires an introspective glance at the notion of what it means to “Serve This Present Age.”

Education, modern liberation, the roles of women, styles of worship, the culture of the people and technological advances, all will impact the future state of the COGIC church. In the words of Elder Edwards, “...the people and mainly the preachers, can be spirit-filled but theologically trained.”

In the 'Next 100 years' according to Pastor Benton, “...we should be progressive, but we must maintain our core values and invasive teachings.”

Many struggles and battles took place to establish a name, whose essence reflects the God of the Bible. And although it has been more than a century, the Church Of God In Christ is growing and standing strong. Moving into the 'Next 100 years', we have entered an inquisitive state and inquiries on the church's future can only be assumed.



Elder Justin D. Edwards



Evangelist Shondell Douglas



Superintendent Oscar Benton



Dianne N. Brown



Superintendent Stenneth
E. Powell



Regericka Brewer

Our past serves as the road map to our future endeavors, which are inspired by the present. In final remarks given by those interviewed, Pastor Benton states, "COGIC is a great progressive church that is moving forward in the vein of God and that God has given us great leadership." Evangelist Douglas says, "COGIC will be a global ministry and will maintain focus of the foundation of Bishop Mason's vision." And Evangelist Irons believes that "...with Bishop Blake's Urban Initiatives, that change needs to begin with your own home before going to the nations globally."

What are some advice COGIC should grasp while moving into the 'Next 100 years?' Elder Edwards feels, "You can be anointed but be educated, and that in the 'Next 100 years' (he) would like to see the Church be relevant to the present age, and create a teaching environment along with preaching skills." Superintendent Powell: "We as Christians are not confined or handcuffed, because with the God we serve

we have the power to rule and turn things around." And finally, Evangelist Douglas says, "Only what you do for Christ will last. We should never be comfortable in who we think we are in our organization, if the foundation of the reason of what we need to be doing, is not being manifested; Holiness is right."

Romans 15:6 speaks of togetherness. We envision a church as a collective body, working in the healing of the body; restoring the minds of the lost; and the reviving of our spirits.

As with any family, there are differences of opinions, but, when it comes to the culture of the Church, there is uniformity uniquely displayed in our worship. It is in the sync clapping of our hands, the patting of our feet, our singing and our dancing.

It is the soul-stirring prayers which drives the Devil out and causes demons to tremble. Yes, we are set apart in our attire, style of preaching, and the cadence tonation

of our voice.

In the 'Next 100 years' the culture will be the same. Superintendent Powell states that "There will be a shift of systems in how we function, how we do church, how we do ministry, how we worship, and, that God will not change." We will be much stronger in how we teach, we will have longevity, and our stability will not be compromised but generations will be the determining factor of how the Church will change.

To serve "this present age" in the year of 2112 may have a difference in the music and attire, but the unity will be there because of the foundation the Bible speaks of, "Upon this rock I will build my church and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it." (Matthew 16:18)

And that's what Bishop Mason did, he built this church on a solid rock and no devil in hell can destroy it. We, as a cultivating church, will embrace and accept change when God says its time to change.

The Roy L.H. Winbush Pictorial Museum, a place where you can experience the history of the Church Of God In Christ.



Original copies of The Whole Truth

The Pictorial Museum is a collection of historical memorabilia which includes photos, newspapers, letters, and Bibles, donated by members and friends of the Church Of God In Christ. The museum highlights specific eras, and persons who through sacrifice and dedication helped shape the ministry of the Church. Sections are dedicated to the Founder, Bishop Charles Harrison Mason and his family; the church's headquarters-Mason Temple, various pioneers of the movement, several branches and ministries of the organization, i.e., the General Board, the Women's Department, and the Publishing House. The Publishing Board is continuing its quest to create a genuine archive that will reflect the history and contribution of the Church Of God In Christ to the world.

The Museum has limited openings, and can be visited by appointment. For additional information please contact:

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The Empire Strikes Back... A Response to Pastor Patrick Wooden

By Dr. Leonard Lovett, Ecumenical Officer, COGIC



Philippians 1:17 "I am put here for the defense of the Gospel". My capable Research Assistant informed me that Pastor Patrick Wooden had responded to my "Ringing in Your Ear Wooden Vitriol Against the President." Response. (see COGIC Scholars Face Book for both articles). During a two (2) hour conversation on 10/16/12, Wooden stated initially that he had not read my article but was relying on what people reportedly told him about the article. He was vehement that he would not want his grandchildren to see that he never responded. We prayed for each other and agreed on a few points. I apologized for an earlier reference to his low-grade doctorate.

1.First, I am disturbed by the way in which Wooden's response was framed and the manner in which my statements from a private conversation were taken out of context to imply that I was supporting his position. When I read his initial call for Blacks to vote against President Obama, I became livid at the thought of such an insidious idea. By making such a plea, you automatically cast

a vote for the opponent who happens to be Romney. That is suicidal for us with six million unregistered voters in the public square who resemble us.

- 2.Secondly, I am concerned that Wooden was rather disingenuous to imply that I agreed with his current position with regards to his having urged Blacks not to support the President. Wooden claims that the editors put a spin on his statement in order to sensationalize the issue.
- 3.Thirdly, I find it troubling that Wooden took pre-written scripted pieces from several sources and weaved them together as though they were fresh from the mind of a brilliant scholar who could engage in serious theological debate. I feel spoofed!!
- 4.Fourthly, I rebuked Wooden for demeaning Gay persons while adulterers run rampant in churches. Why the homophobia? Why this obsessive pre-occupation with demonizing Gay people and fear of a homosexual takeover. I predict that if Wooden continues this kind of ranting, posed as the Gospel, he will become a blood clot in the body politic of civil, po-

litical and theological discourse.

Conclusion: Wooden celebrates the fact that he is neither Democrat or Republican, but he falls short of severely publicly criticizing the bigoted conservative Religious Right. They won again by using same-sex marriage as a wedge issue to divide the Black vote. The President is not a moral theologian. He is tasked to insure the rights of all citizens through public policy mandates. Wooden's criticism of Romney and Mormonism as a cult was guarded. The political shortcomings of President Obama, cited by Wooden, fell short and focused on what he has not done rather than what has been accomplished. It seems that lack of healthcare is a far more moral issue than sexual promiscuity. Where are the advocates for the thousands of marginalized, and especially persons of color, who die from curable diseases for lack of basic affordable healthcare? Isn't a war, based on flawed intelligence where thousands die just as immoral as abortion? Why not preach a balanced inclusive Kingdom oriented balanced Gospel when dealing with all sin which includes sexual sins.



All In The Family

By Dr. Sean R. Jarrett

The institution of the family is the one of the greatest phenomenons that God utilizes to convey His message of unconditional love and security towards the human race and His creation. The preeminence of the family is revealed throughout Scripture, from the times of the patriarchs through the history of the early church. The Bible further conveys, that the family structure was designed to mirror the Heavenly order of the Godhead (1 Cor 11:3). Whenever God decides to establish his sovereignty or manifest His purpose in the earth, He utilizes an element that already exist in His Kingdom.

The creation of mankind was to necessitate a void or vacuum that existed in the earth from the Genesis of time. Adam and Eve were mandated to be fruitful and multiply, to fill and rule the earth (Gen. 1:26-28; 2:7-8,15, 21-25). Adam's first assignment began with cultivating and expanding the garden that God planted eastward in Eden. Secondly, God said that it was not good for the created man to live alone, therefore God made Eve to meet the physical need for companionship to Adam. Finally, they were created to have fellowship with God and to walk with Him continuously.

Therefore, we can summarize the primary purpose for family is to glorify God by ruling over God's creation, while enjoying intimacy with God and one another. This dominion would take place as the couple reproduced a godly heritage and literally filled the earth. This purpose would be fulfilled through institution of family.

Unfortunately, intimacy between God and man, as well as between the man and woman was marred and became difficult due to the Adamic Fall. Adam disobeyed God and failed to administrate God's creation and nurture his purpose for relationship. This Fall consequently caused a sever between man and his God and suspicion between man and his woman. Sons were born after man's image (Gen. 5:3) and a godly heritage was not produced. This transgression was the impetus for all of the present challenges that plague the modern day family structure.

Therefore it is incumbent on the believer and the church to return to our Genesis and restore the sanctity of marriage between one man and one woman, and the purpose of the parent to provide for the physical needs of children according to Prov. 31:15, 27; 1 Thes. 2:7. God designed the family to be the primary context in which the basic human need of companionship could be met.

The adversary has devised a cadre of methods and schemes to divide and conqueror the family structure. Satan was dismissed from his heavenly family because of pride and deception. Since that time he has sought to disrupt the peace and harmony in Gods family. Divorce, distrust, delusions, derisions, dysfunctions, disease, and debt are just a few vices and spiritual attacks launched by the adversary to infiltrate the family. His assaults are boundless and without respect of person. He attacks from the greatest to the least. The rich as well as the poor, the saint as well as the sinner, the master of the house as well as the servant of the house and nothing can save and assure a healthy family environment except the blood of Jesus Christ. The blood of the lamb, in the exodus of the family of Israel from Egypt, kept the death angel from killing their first-born. That lambs blood was a type and shadow of the bloodshed by our lamb slain Jesus the Christ. We must apply His blood over the lentals of our homes, marriages, children, careers, and ministries to stave off the assault of the devil. Lastly we must return our families to that communion with God in the Garden of Eden through worship and prayer, because the family that prays together stays together.



State of the Church

Dr. S. Benjamin Brown Sr.
Kingdom Life
Church of God in Christ
Melbourne, Florida

There are questions that have been asked for years, "Where's the Church and What's Wrong with the Church? We have answered these questions with problems without solutions, leaving the Church with the stigma of despair. May I for a moment just remind all of us of Matthew 16:18.

"And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it."

During this discourse, Jesus asks, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" The disciples give various answers. As many of us would have! But when He asks, "Who do you say that I am?" Simon Peter answers, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." In turn, Jesus declares Peter you are "blessed" for having recognized My true identity. For this divine clarity Jesus re-identifies Simon Peter, not as a fisherman, but as an Apostle, in which Peter's name signifies his purpose and destiny—"Rock". Upon this Rock? Yes this Rock, this unlikely symbol of stability. This Peter whom Jesus Himself said "O ye of little faith, why did you doubt?" (Matthew 14:31)? This same Peter who denies Jesus three times as Jesus declared, but said after you have been converted, strengthen your brother (Luke 22:32). Peter, once misunderstood now is the symbol of the Forgiven.

The Church is the symbol of the forgiven, not the perfect. It is the epicenter, of the universal message that Jesus can save any and every individual. When one asks, where—the Church is everywhere we don't want to be; it's in broken homes, broken marriages and broken relationships. Yes, broken but not destroyed, The Church is where these issues are addressed and repaired. The Church is where the hopeless find Hope, the lonely are embraced in Love, and where the lost are Found.

Peter allowed the pressure of others and fear of his mortality, that he outsourced himself to the will of man, but Jesus told Peter "I prayed for you that your Faith Fail You Not" (Luke 22:32). This is the Will of God; we can't fall to the deceptive thoughts and actions of those, whose objectives are to entrap us in our past, nor to derail us from our future. Peter would have aborted his purpose but he remembered; Church, we must never forget, we are Forgiven.

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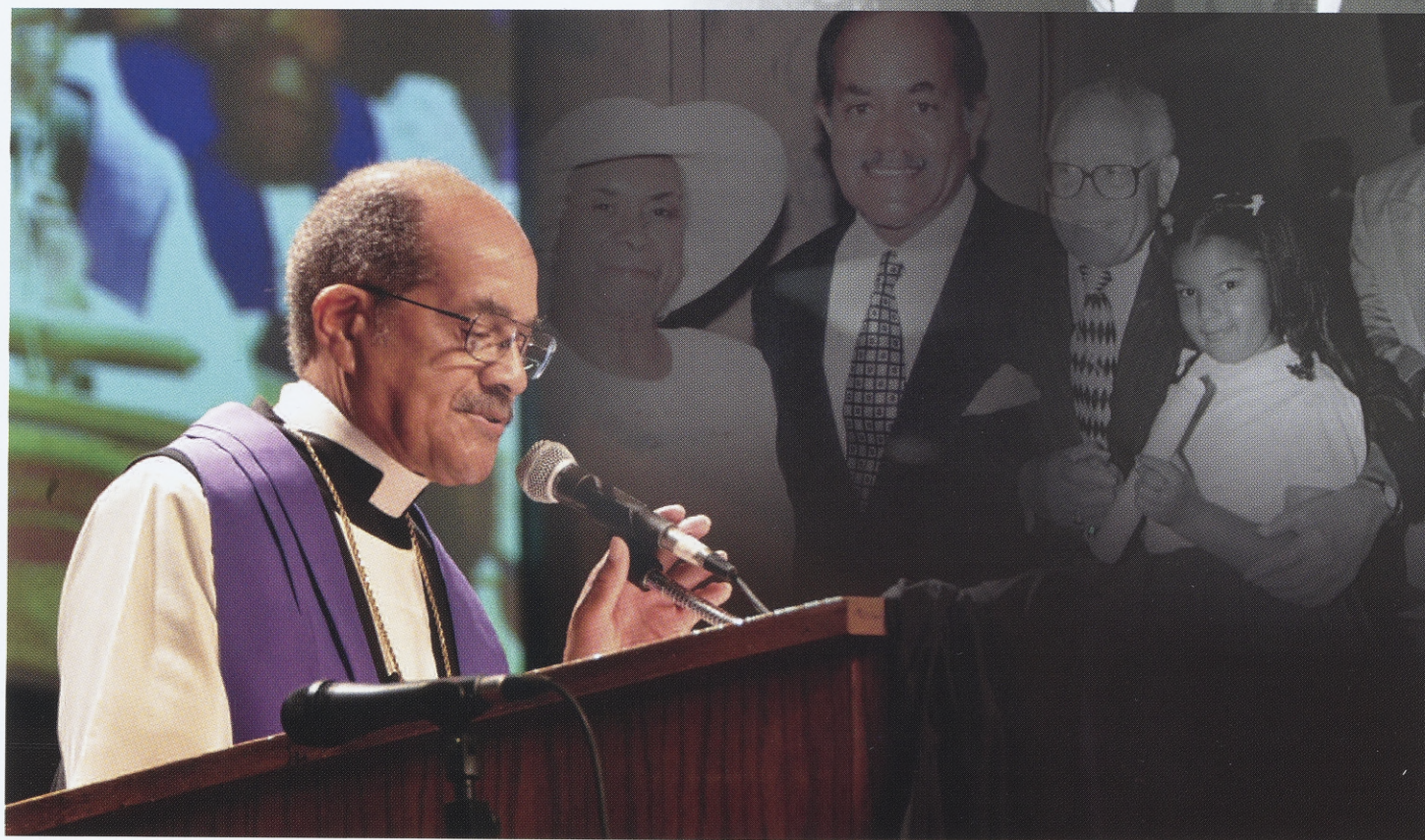


Sustaining Spirituality

TOWNSEL, IGLEHART, BELLAMY, TATUM
SAINTS HERITAGE COMMUNITY PRAYER ROTUNDA

A Legacy of Service

By Evangelist B. Irons



left to right: Bishop Charles M. Ford, Bishop & Mother Marlene Ford, Presiding Bishop L. H. Ford with a Saint's Academy student, President William Clinton & Presiding Bishop Ford

Each one of us wants to be remembered for our contribution to society and to our communities when we make our transition. We all want to leave something that will be a lasting impression upon the hearts and minds of those we have had the opportunity to touch. Our legacy is not determined at our death; our legacy is determined by our living.

The Whole Truth sat down and talked with Bishop Charles Mason Ford about the legacy that he continues to perpetuate that was established by his father. His father, Presiding Bishop Louis Henry Ford spent his lifetime in service; and his son Bishop Charles Mason Ford, continues that legacy that was imprinted upon his heart by his mother and father. We talked with him about his contribution to the Church Of God In Christ, Inc., to his city and state, and to

the ministry where he serves as pastor.

However, before we share our conversation with Bishop Charles Ford, let us remember briefly the legacy of his father, Bishop Louis Henry Ford, the Second Elected Presiding Bishop of the Church Of God In Christ. Bishop Ford was heard saying, "grass can grow in the ghetto", and "that no man is so big that he cannot stoop down and touch the life of a child." In an interview after the passing of his father in 1995, Bishop Charles Ford told the Chicago Tribune, "My love for children may be something I inherited from my father, but the power and friendships my father had are not a birthright. My father enjoyed influence with governors and mayors. Those relationships are earned, that's not something that's passed on." Bishop Louis Henry Ford was born in Clarksdale, Mississippi. He was educated in the school

of the Church Of God In Christ in Lexington, Mississippi, called to Illinois to conduct a revival in 1933, and never returned to his home state; and established St. Paul Church Of God In Christ in 1934 on the Southside of Chicago. He organized the ministry of the Church in 1936. In the late 1940's and early 1950's, he led the fight to integrate the hotels and other public accommodations in Memphis, Tennessee and other cities years before the organized Civil Rights Movement. Bishop Ford advocated voting rights and inspired African Americans to participate in the political process by his own active role in city, state, and national affairs.

Bishop Louis Henry Ford served as pastor and spiritual leader for nearly 61 years. He developed the ministries of the Church to address the needs of the entire community. Those ministries still provide assistance to the elderly and the

homeless; disaster relief and early childhood development; youth employment training and adult counseling.

As Presiding Bishop of the 5th largest denomination in the United States with more than 9,000 congregations around the world, he set in motion plans to address social problems relating to senior citizens, youth, the disabled, rising crime, homelessness, sub-standard education, HIV/AIDS and substance abuse. Bishop Ford was a builder of men and a builder of institutions.

- Refurbished and remodeled our National Landmark, Church Of God In Christ Headquarters, Mason Temple, in Memphis, Tennessee.
- Developed the Mattie McGlothen Home of Love and Hope Emergency Shelter for battered and homeless women and children, Memphis, Tennessee.

Bishop Ford was a friend and advisor to U.S. Presidents dating back to President Harry S. Truman. He had a very special relationship with President Bill Clinton. That relationship resulted in President Clinton inviting Bishop Ford to be an overnight guest in the White House in December 1994.

When you read of Presiding Bishop Ford's contribution and the contribution of Mother Margaret Ford to the community, on the Southside of Chicago, you understand why Bishop Charles M. Ford's resume is so impressive. Serving God by serving people was demonstrated to him by both parents. His mother, Margaret Ford, went home to be with the Lord in 2003, and again Bishop Ford shared fond memories of his mother's work with the Chicago Tribune. His mother taught Sunday school for years and was a favorite among students. "My mother had a special gift of working with young people, young people used to run to hear her teach."

Bishop Charles Ford's resume includes and is not limited to the following accomplishment. He has served as:

- Chairman, National Board of Trustees Church Of God In Christ, Inc.
- Member, Board of Directors First Jurisdiction-Illinois and the Jurisdictions Not-for-Profit arm, the Moriah Community

Development Corporation

- President, Board of Directors, Margaret Ford Manor – Housing for the elderly and Victoria Jennings Residences – Housing for the disabled.
- President & Executive Director, St. Paul COGIC Community Development Ministries, Inc. which sponsored:
 - Chaney Ford Child Care Center
 - Chaney Ford Early Head Start Program
 - YES After School Program
 - Project P.R.I.D.E. (Job Training and Placement)

The Whole Truth: What is the role of the Trustee Board of the COGIC?



Bishop C.M Ford with his father at the McGlothen homeless shelter

Bishop Ford: We've been assigned the task by the Constitution to care for and maintain the property owned by the COGIC. We are required by the constitution to hold the titles and deeds of church owned property. The primary responsibility of the Trustee Board is budget related. Each year we've started predevelopment activity related to the coming year's budget. Since I've been Chairman of the Trustee Board, we have processed approximately \$75 million dollars.

The Whole Truth: You have served on the Trustee Board for twelve years, and all of those years as the Chairman. What led to your decision to not run for the Trustee Board for this quadrennial election?

Bishop Ford: I have given and will continue to

give every ounce of energy left in my body, left in me, to work for the Church. There are things that need to be done locally, where I pastor, St. Paul COGIC, Chicago, IL; and [for] the remaining years I have on this planet, I'd like to spend it developing the ministry of St. Paul.

The year that my father passed away, we organized the St. Paul Community Development Ministry (CDM), and we wanted to reach out into the community to improve living conditions. One of the projects we initiated shortly after my father's death were plans for building housing for the elderly and within a period of a year and a half we built a sixty unit building next to the church which takes care of the needs of those individuals.

We were also blessed to build a thirty unit building for the physically disabled, which is in the community several miles away from the church. We sponsor a day care center, called the Home Day Care Program.

The Whole Truth: How does the home day care program operate?

Bishop Ford: We help the city administer home day care sites in the community. At its peak, we had five locations on the Southside of the city of Chicago. We also sponsor an after school program called "YES" (Young Enlightened Saints). My son Elder Kevin Ford is the executive director of the job development program called Operation PRIDE. Thus, the legacy continues.

Bishop Charles Ford served as the assistant pastor to his father for years, while he worked for Chicago's Department of Human Services as the Deputy Commissioner. He brought a wealth of administrative experience and social service knowledge to the pastorate. His experience and responsibilities with the city included: child protection, youth and family development, and community organization.

Bishop Ford provided the leadership in developing and implementing the city's emergency services program. It was the largest intervention program of its kind in the nation and has been emulated in states nationwide. A national management/program evaluation firm deemed that it was state-of-the-art in terms of size, scope of operations and quality of service. It is still in operation today.

“ I really believe Bishop Charles Ford’s efforts and leadership on the Trustee Board took the Board to another level, especially in the area of bridging its function with the General Board. ”

-Bishop Brandon Porter

Installed as an Auxiliary Bishop by Presiding Bishop Gilbert E. Patterson in 2003, the legislative bodies of both the city of Chicago and the state of Illinois extended congratulatory expressions to him through resolutions that were read before the constituency of those two bodies.

The Whole Truth spoke with persons who have served with Bishop Charles Ford and asked for expressions regarding this man of God. I really believe Bishop Charles Ford’s efforts and leadership on the Trustee Board took the Board to another level, especially in the area of bridging its function with the General Board. In the first four years of our election and service, I served with him as Vice-Chairman, and found him to be such an intelligent person; I’ve learned so much just working along side of him. To have his wealth of knowledge about the church, and his legacy with his father was such a plus for the Church Of God In Christ. His managerial skills and his ability to amalgamate all involved persons and bring about peaceable function and workability was just an awesome experience for me. I’ve enjoyed working with Bishop Charles Ford on the Trustee Board, and I will cherish that experience forever.

- Bishop Brandon Porter

Former Trustee Board Chairman Bishop Dwight Green: “Bishop Ford desired to do all he

could do to bring to fruition ministry capabilities that Presiding Bishops would project, and so as a leader, to keep the board cohesive, he was always interested in including everybody and their expertise to bring to bear the vision of the COGIC and be able to make available the finances based on the incomes that was projected by the financial secretary. We salute him for his leadership and his diligence, while working in that awesome position,



Front row: LtoR: Evang. Georgia Lowe, Mother Sylvia Law, Asst. Secretary, Supt. Dwight Walls, Vice-Chairman, Bishop Charles M. Ford, Chairman, Supt. McClendon Winbush, Vice-Chairman, Mother Mildred Linzy, Mother Frances Curtis

Second Row: LtoR: Bishop Frank A. White, Bishop William Cahoon, Elder Josephus Shepherd, Elder Charles H. M. Patterson, Bishop Brandon Porter, Bishop Dwight Green, Supt. Dickerson L. S. Wells, Secretary, Deacon Walter Jones, (not pictured).

because it can be stressful at times, but he was able to wear whatever stress he might have encountered professionally, and it was to the betterment of our Church. We will certainly miss his astute insight and his leadership ability.”

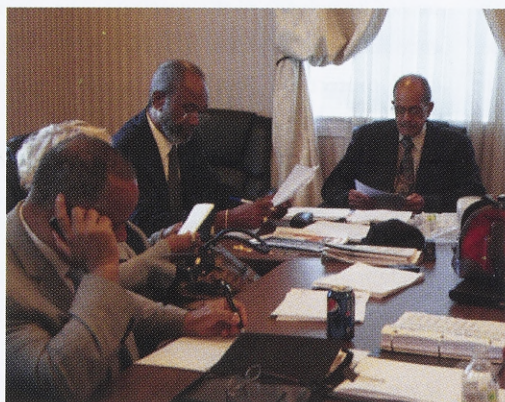
Bishop Charles Ford has been married to his lovely wife Mother Marlene Ford for more than five decades. When asked what are the keys to maintaining a successful marriage, he had just one comment, “one of the keystones to a successful marriage is to listen”.

The Whole Truth: Give us your wisdom on being the best one can be for the Lord.

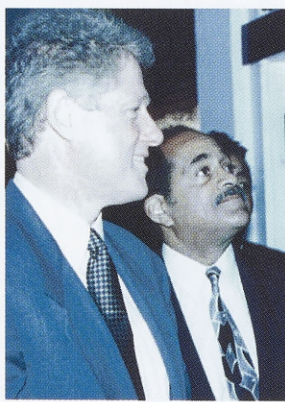
Bishop Ford: Those who are committed to Matthew 25, should be mindful of the needs of our brothers and sisters who are without clothes and food, and we should treat them the way that we would treat our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

As always *The Whole Truth* asked each Memphis Insider to share with its audience the three words that best describe them, Bishop Charles Mason Ford’s response was: “**determined, forthright and considerate.**”

For the many years Bishop Ford served the Church Of God In Christ on the National level, *The Whole Truth* salutes him for his dedication to the ministry, and for his service to God and man.



Bishop Ford meeting with Trustee Board



President Clinton & Bishop Ford



Bishop Charles Ford @ COGIC Scholarship Banquet with his parents, and others from Illinois First Jurisdiction

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- 19 Districts
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- N.H. Henderson Scholarship Program

- Licensed in 1963 under Bishop C.H. Nelson
- Ordained in 1966 by Bishop S.M. Crouch
- Bachelor's Degree in Church Administration
- Doctorate of Divinity
- Nearly 50 years in The Gospel Ministry
- Over 40 years of Pastoral Service
- Current Pastor of The Island of Hope Church Of God In Christ
- Jurisdictional Prelate of Texas South Central

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COGIC Global Health and Wellness

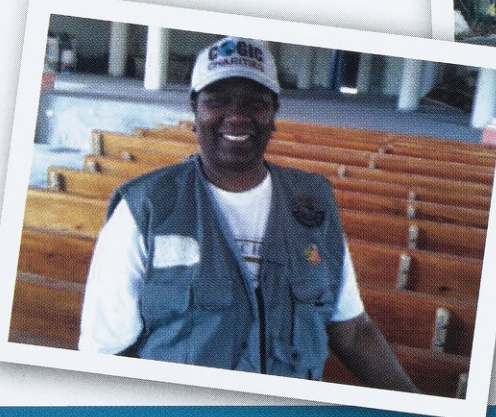


General Hospital in Port
au Prince collapsed

Haiti outside view



First Lady Amos



The words, "Everybody wants to go to heaven, but nobody wants to die" are part of an old gospel song, but also true for the average saint. Healthcare costs taxpayers \$1.13 trillion dollars a year, because nobody wants to die. Global Health and Wellness is the initiative designed to enhance the lives of the saints, as well as provide compassionate assistance to those hurt by poverty and disaster. As we come to the end of another year, we must reflect on the greatest human tragedy to affect this hemisphere over the last decade. The earthquake in January of 2010 affected humanity everywhere. Each volunteer experienced a life-changing epiphany as a result of what he or she witnessed on Hispaniola.

I appreciate the confidence and support given to me by Bishop Blake and the COGIC Charities Board who afforded me the opportunity to serve in Haiti during those critical times. When asked to establish a medical clinic that would respond to the emergency and be a lasting reflection of

COGIC's commitment to Haiti, major changes in my life and in the life of my family were needed in order to be available to the church's calling. The Medical Director would need to be available full time for travel, the gathering of medications and supplies, development of alliances and partnerships with other emergency responders of the international community and interactions with governmental and non-governmental agencies. This could not be done while maintaining a full time medical practice. As a leap of faith, I calculated my personal cost of living, to maintain my home in Indiana at a basic level, and work full time for the church. I presented this to Bishop Blake who agreed and authorized payment. Each quarter I would be compensated for my services rendered for the previous 3 months. If the church could no longer afford to pay, my bills would still have been paid up for at least 3 months, which would provide ample time for me to re-establish a practice, or other income streams from the medical profession.

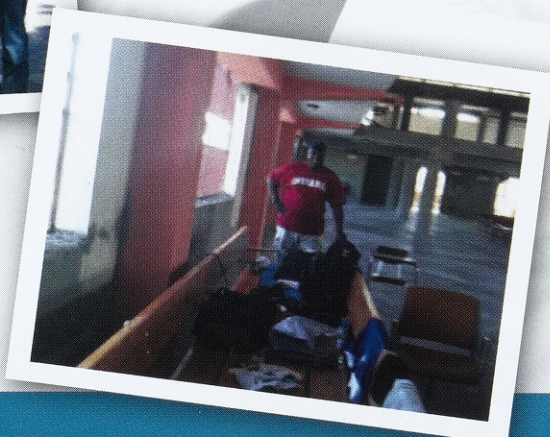
With this commitment in hand, Global Health and Wellness was born. The first clinic was opened on February 14, 2010 in Port-au-Prince at the church of Bishop Dautruche, the Jurisdictional Bishop. Many people have asked how our work was different from the enormous and lifelong work of Bishop Moody and the Missions Department. Our mission was different. For the first time, COGIC would establish a permanent clinic; open 5 days a week, free to whomever would come.

Support by Bishop Moody in navigating through the customs of the people of Haiti was immeasurable. Also, the mission's health team from Faith Temple COGIC, Bishop Moody's local church, was among our first to serve. Superintendent James Pullings, COGIC's crisis management specialist, provided the infrastructural support for our medical teams, facilitating our meals, transportation, protection, and other needs. Missionary Sylvia Law became an ardent advocate for our cause, after visiting the clinic. Dr. S. Allen Counter and his medical

“Support by Bishop Moody in navigating through the customs of the people of Haiti was immeasurable. Also, the missions’ health team from Faith Temple COGIC, Bishop Moody’s local church, was among our first to serve.”



Harvard and COGIC team at Dominican Embassy



Dr. Amos Bed in Haiti

team joined us; a great explorer and historian, as well as a neuroscience professor at Harvard University. The Dominican Republic President sent a military attachment to COGIC with a helicopter full of medical supplies, water, tents and other needed goods. The DR staff also attended service that Sunday at the Bishop’s Church with us. While the Saints shouted and praised God for his goodness to them, in the midst of death, mourning and poverty, we prepared to give medical therapy, antibiotics, removal of sutures from wounds... and sometimes just hugs and prayers.

Over the next several months, relationships developed with COGIC doctors, nurses, CNA’s, physical therapists, psychologists, and other paramedical professionals, while COGIC Charities provide the financial support. Cooper Temple COGIC (Pastor Marc Cooper, Bishop Jacob Cohen, Prelate) gave tremendous support by serving as a triage location for the large volume of donated clothing, food, and water that came from around the USA. The saints from

across the nation responded graciously to Bishop Blake’s appeals. Over \$1.5 million was raised for the cause.

Although COGIC initially committed to help churches rebuild, that goal was never realized. Medications, travel costs, facilitation, and honoraria used only a fraction of that amount. My last trip to Haiti ended in October of 2010. Unfortunately, Bishop Blake informed me that my July to October stipend would not be paid. When discussing the impact nonpayment would have on my family, Bishop Blake, replied, “I’m sure the Lord will make a way!” Ah... the leap of faith again!

Bishop Blake was right. Although it was an unexpected non gratis, and a difficult continuation of the sacrifices we made for the needs of Haiti, the Lord did make a way after a while. Bishop Jerry L. Maynard, Dr. Mary T. Maynard and relatives and friends stepped in to help.

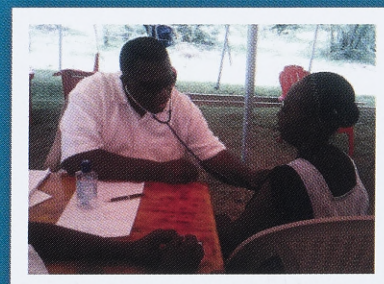
Today the Lord has restored, and I have the fond memories and satisfaction of conscience that His will was done. The comple-

tion of the Haiti National Headquarters and the establishment of the COGIC Medical Clinic along with the constant supply of medical teams were the real accomplishments during those critical times. Today, my vision of a COGIC campus housing the National COGIC Cathedral, the COGIC Medical Clinic, a COGIC Guest House and School is coming to pass.

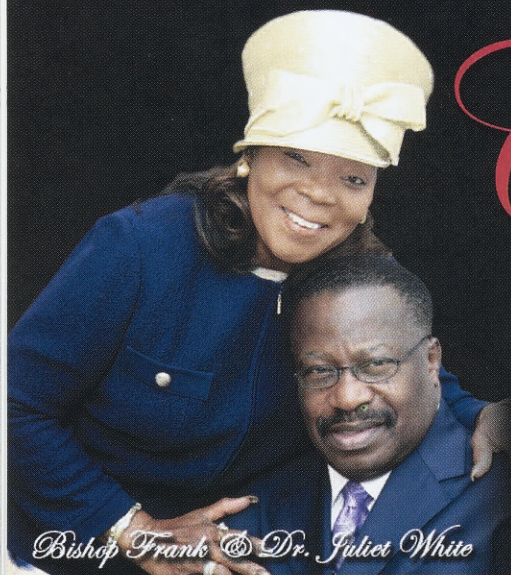
Global Health and Wellness is ready to help wherever the need is. The portfolio of medical professionals is willing to assist anywhere in the world. Feel free to contact me at EltonAmosMD@gmail.com for more information.

Elton Amos, MD

Director of COGIC Global Health and Wellness

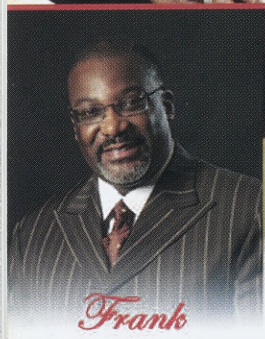


Dr. Amos at work in the Clinic



Bishop Frank & Dr. Juliet White

It's
Christmas
at the
White House



Frank



Sherri



Otha



Chakira



Yashima



Tykolyn

BACK TOGETHER AGAIN

IT'S SOMETHING SO SPECIAL...
SO UNEXPECTED...
IT HASN'T HAPPENED IN 20 YEARS...

A CONCERT GIFT FROM OUR FAMILY TO YOURS

This Christmas

7PM - SUNDAY, DECEMBER 23, 2012
ZION CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST
312 GRAND AVENUE, FREEPORT, NY 11520



MAKE YOUR VOTE OLDEN



PASTOR MICHAEL B. GOLDEN, JR.
GRANDSON OF
BISHOP SAMUEL L. GREEN, JR.

Trustee Board



Local Church Experience

Trustee Board Member
Youth Pastor
Assistant Pastor
Chief Executive Officer
Business Manager
Chairman of Expansion
Project Committee
Pastor

Jurisdictional Experience

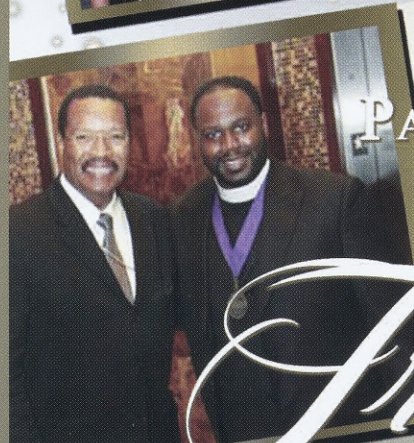
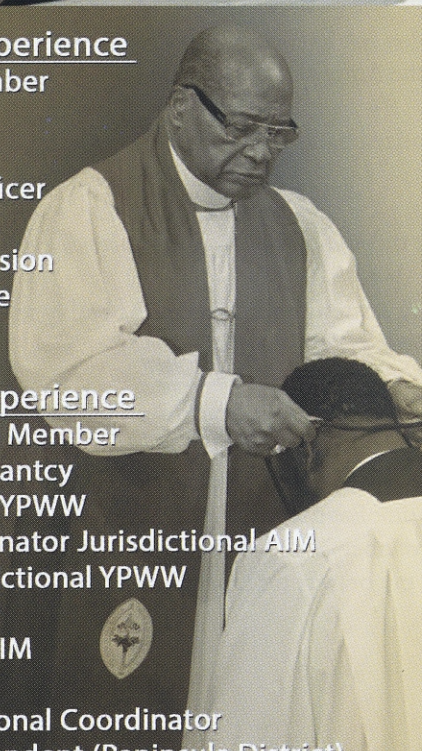
Budget Committee Member
Scribe of The Adjutantcy
2nd Vice President YPWW
Convention Coordinator Jurisdictional AIM
President of Jurisdictional YPWW
Real Estate Advisor
Vice Chairman of AIM
AIM Chairman
Assistant Jurisdictional Coordinator
Assistant Superintendent (Peninsula District)

National Church Experience

National Adjutant
Youth Church Board Member
Special Assistant to the Regional Director IYD
Public Relations Director of International Youth Department
Vice President of the International Youth Department

Business Experience

Financial Advisor to the Prelate
General Manager of the Governors Inn ALF
Chief Operating Officer of the Governors Inn ALF
Chief Operating Officer/General Manager of FFL Richer
Life Care
Commercial Lender
Commercial Project Manager
Part Owner of Jabez Real Estate & Development
Company LLC





FACES OF COGIC

General Assembly

Elder James W Hunt Sr., Chairman
Memorandum



Superintendent James W. Hunt, Sr.
General Assembly Chairman
2011--Present



Bishop J. O. Patterson, Jr.
General Assembly Chairman
2000--2011



Bishop Frank Ellis
General Assembly Chairman
1989--2000



Bishop Levis E. Willis, Sr.
General Assembly Chairman
1982-1988

In just a few days, we will be gathering in the city of St. Louis, Missouri, for the 105th Annual Holy Convocation. Our prayers are for our Presiding Bishop and General Board as they lead us in worship of our God and in fellowship with one another.

I am grateful to the Presiding Bishop and the General Board for concluding the Convocation on Sunday, November 11, 2012, and enabling the first session of the November 2012 General Assembly to begin on Monday, November 12, 2012 at 9:00 a.m. Opening on Monday will allow the General Assembly to do the business of the National Church in a timely and expeditious manner.

Below, please find a proposed location, schedule and timetable for the November 2012 Session. I ask that you adhere to the proposed schedule.

CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST, INC., General Assembly,
November 12 & 13, 2012

Location:

St. Louis, Missouri
America's Center-Halls 4 & 5

Schedule:

Monday, November 12, 2012
(Doors will open at 8:00 a.m.)

Opening Session

9:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M.

Break

2:00 P.M. - 6:00 P.M.

Evening Session

6:00 PM

Tuesday, November 13, 2012
Election of General Officers
8:00 A.M.

The doors to the America's Center will open at 6:30 A.M.

Only delegates with authorized badges will be able to enter the America's Center.

Recess

At the end of the election process.

The agenda for the opening session of the General Assembly will include reports from the Presiding Bishop and General Board, the Board of Trustees and other standing Committees and Commissions of the General Assembly. The agenda for the Monday evening session will be exclusively for the delegates to hear from the candidates for office, and the Tuesday session is for the election process.

The number of delegates to the November 2012 Session of the General Assembly is expected to be of record proportion. I appreciate, in advance, your prayers, participation and cooperation in making the November 2012 Session of the General Assembly a peaceful and productive session. You are in my prayers for safe travel.

Chairman James W. Hunt, Sr.

THE TENTATIVE AGENDA • GENERAL ASSEMBLY CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST, INC.

General Assembly, November 12 & 13, 2012

Superintendent James W. Hunt, Sr., Chairman

At the

America's Center • St. Louis, Missouri, Halls 4 & 5

Monday, November 12, 2012

Opening Session • 9:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M.
Break for Dinner • 2:00 P.M. - 6:00 P.M.
Evening Session • 6:00 P.M.

Tuesday, November 13, 2012

Election of National Officers - 8:00 A.M. (The doors to the America's Convention Center will open at 6:30 A.M.)

We have every intention of Recessing as soon as the election process is completed.

Opening Session • Monday, November 12, 2012, 9:00 A.M.

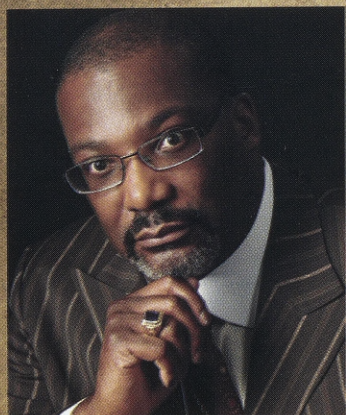
- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. The Call to Order | Vice Chairman, Bishop Lemuel Thuston |
| 2. Opening Prayer & Scripture | Chaplin, Elder Eugene Ferrell |
| 3. The Certification of the House | Bishop Juan Lawson |
| 4. Adoption of the Minutes (April 2012) | General Secretary, Bishop Joel H. Lyles |
| 5. Adoption of the Agenda | General Secretary, Bishop Joel H. Lyles |

Tentative Agenda:

- | | |
|---|--|
| I. Address to the Delegates | Supt. James W. Hunt, Sr., <i>Chairman</i> |
| II. The Presiding Bishop & General Board Report | Bishop Charles E. Blake, Sr., <i>Presiding Bishop</i>
Report given by: Bishop Roy L. H. Winbush, <i>Assistant Secretary</i> |
| III. Trustee Board - Operating Budget (2013-2014) | Bishop Charles M. Ford, <i>Chairman</i> |
| IV. Reports from Committees of the General Assembly | |
| a. The Election Committee | Chairlady Myra Banks |
| b. Candidates For Office: | |
| b. i 24 - Trustee Board | |
| b. ii 4 - General Officers | |
| b. iii 24 - General Board | |
| V. Election Directions | Chairlady Myra Banks |
| VI. Election Committee | |

Tuesday, November 13, 2012, 8:00 A.M.

- | | |
|--|---|
| VII. The Quadrennial Election | |
| a. The Election Committee Directives | Chairlady Myra Banks Banks, <i>Election Committee</i> |
| b. The Election Process | |
| c. The Certification of the Election Results | |
| VIII. The 2013 Calendar | Bishop Joel H. Lyles, <i>General Secretary</i> |
| IX. The Motion to Recess | Bishop Joel H. Lyles, <i>General Secretary</i> |
| X. The Benediction | The Presiding Bishop |



The Office of the Financial Secretary: Something to Look Forward To

MONEY IN A MINUTE

By Bishop Frank Anthonie White

When Merck & Company reached its 100th year anniversary, it published a book entitled: *Visions and Values*.

I was astonished that the title doesn't even mention what Merck does. The title could have been: *From Chemicals to Pharmaceuticals or 100 Years of Financial Success At Merck*, but it didn't.

Instead, it chose to emphasize that it has been throughout its history a company guided and inspired by a set of ideals for the advancement of medical science and service to humanity.

Whenever the saints gather in prayer at our historic landmark Mason Temple, fervently petitioning that its stewards be endued with the understanding of the Sons of Issachar, that they might know what to do in times like these – almost by default, the sense of duty within arises to embody a yet greater significance, responsibility and reverence.

How grateful I am to have been given the privilege to serve our great Church as Financial Secretary for this quadrennial, and I sincerely trust that the previous articles have been a source of inspiration to you.

As we come to the close of this year, without question, things are looking up. In studying the recent report of job growth in the United States, which places the current unemployment rate at 7.8%, (the lowest since 2009), the Church Of God In Christ stands in a resourceful season to remain all the more **confident of this very thing, that He which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ (Philippians 1:6).**

We are committed to practicing good stewardship. The biblical concept of stewardship, beginning with Adam and Eve and developed more fully in the New Testament, is that God is owner and provider of all that any of us possess.

Psalm 24:1: The earth is the LORD's and the fullness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein.

Since everything belongs to Him, it is incumbent that all be used for His purposes and glory. A Steward is one who manages another's property, finances or business.

God is the owner and we are the managers or "stewards" of what He has entrusted us with. A collective responsibility was given to mankind to have dominion over the earth, care for it, and manage it for His glory.

God expects that we, (regardless of vocation), will exercise responsible stewardship, on His behalf every day that we live. Stewardship can be defined as the use of God-given resources for the accomplishment of God-given goals.

Six basic principles:

1. **What we have is not ours.**
2. **We're given what we can handle.**
3. **We must invest what we've been given.**
4. **A day of accountability is coming.**
5. **What we do with what we have reveals our view of God.**
6. **What we have we must use or what we have we will lose.**

Overall: The outgrowth of this commitment to the principles of biblical stewardship has shown widespread continuity across the National Body in the efficient reporting of jurisdictional and national credential holder assessments and a participatory boost in our National Laity Campaign.

It is precisely because of this diligent support, that the Office of the Financial Secretary is able to report a successful turnaround in facilitating its inaugural goals of –

“God is the owner and we are the managers or “stewards” of what He has entrusted us with. A collective responsibility was given to mankind to have dominion over the earth, care for it, and manage it for His glory.”

- Utilizing 21st Century Banking & Financial Services Technology;
- Implementing Best Practices – Compliance and Assessment Programs;
- Maximizing the Commercial Contact of COGIC Marketing Opportunities;
- Augmenting Our Interface of Corporate Sponsorships, Partnerships and Joint Revenue Agreements;
- Increasing Retail Outlets for COGIC Products in Mainstream Commercial Franchises;
- Boosting Awareness of COGIC Presence, Services and Outreach to the General Public.

Focusing ahead, we invite you to anticipate an exciting agenda of multi-dimensional programs and services soon to be looped into the fabric of the National Body from the Office of the Financial Secretary. You will find us in 2013 always at your service, branching out and reaching out in our expanded threefold feature of *Tracking*, *Teaching* and *Technology*.

Tracking: The Office of the Financial Secretary has instituted a sterling system for tracking, reporting and accurately conveying the status of all transactions in real time. In our desire to bring you a more vibrant experience of customer service, join us in “looking forward” to this steadily improving branch of our Office’s infrastructure.

Teaching: Throughout the year, many of you have participated in seminars and workshops produced by the Office of the Financial Secretary with step-by-step exercises designed to advance financial em-

powerment awareness both in theory and in practice.

Technology: The accelerated pace of technology will never outpace the fastest growing Pentecostal denomination in the United States! Nevertheless, to stay conventional and competitive, a sub-team of consultants has been assembled among our staff of highly qualified professionals to assist us in transitioning to a state-of-the-art financial office.

As this year slowly winds to a close, our finance staff stands with me to affirm the influence of our Presiding Bishop by bolstering his proclamation that God always “Gives Us Something to Look Forward To”.

At the end of a typical day in the Finance Office, my own exhortation for the enterprise of prayer echoes those petitions from Mason Temple. It is there; in the holy precincts of grace that I offer praise and express my profound gratitude for the honor of humbly serving dedicated believers like you.

It’s all business... It’s all God’s... And it’s all good!



COGIC NEWS BRIEF

Church Of God In Christ News from around the World

AUXILIARY BISHOP DESIGNATES 2012



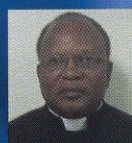
Bishop Designate
James Edward Atterberry, Sr.

Auxiliary Bishop,
Columbia Jurisdiction



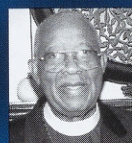
Bishop Designate
John Alfred Barton

Auxiliary Bishop,
Wisconsin 1st Jurisdiction



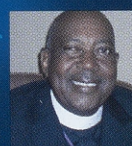
Bishop Designate
Edwin Clarence Bass

Auxiliary Bishop,
Missouri Eastern 1st
Jurisdiction



Bishop Designate
Wilbert Lee Daniels

Auxiliary Bishop,
Virginia 2nd Jurisdiction



Bishop Designate
Adams Alforance Edwards

Auxiliary Bishop,
Brazil Jurisdiction



Bishop Designate
William Leroy Harper

Auxiliary Bishop,
Missouri Eastern 1st Jurisdiction



Bishop Designate
LeRoy Fredrick Johnson, Jr.

Auxiliary Bishop,
Iowa Jurisdiction



Bishop Designate
James L'Keith Jones

Auxiliary Bishop,
New Mexico Jurisdiction



Bishop Designate
Otis McCormick

Auxiliary Bishop,
Alaska Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction



Bishop Designate
Cephas McGee, Jr.

Auxiliary Bishop,
New York Central Jurisdiction



Bishop Designate
Willie Gene Robinson

Auxiliary Bishop,
New York 1st Jurisdiction



Bishop Designate
Leon Smith

Auxiliary Bishop,
Nevada Jurisdiction



Bishop Designate
Hersey Lee Taylor

Auxiliary Bishop,
New Jersey 3rd Jurisdiction



Bishop Designate
Reginald LaMont Williams

Auxiliary Bishop,
Texas Northeast 1st Jurisdiction



Bishop Designate
Andrew Hopewell Willis

Auxiliary Bishop,
Pennsylvania Commonwealth
Jurisdiction

JURISDICTIONAL BISHOPS 2012



Bishop Designate
Gary Lamar Hall

Prelate, Central Florida
Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction



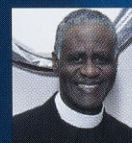
Bishop Designate
Joe Baylor Mason

Prelate, Arkansas 3rd
Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction



Bishop Designate
Jesse Thomas Wilson

Prelate, Hawaii Ecclesiastical
Jurisdiction



Bishop Designate
Hillmon Moses

Prelate, South Jersey
Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction



Bishop Designate
Terrance Paul Rhone

Prelate, Brazil Ecclesiastical
Jurisdiction



Bishop Designate
William Samuel Wright

Prelate, Tennessee Southwest
Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction



Bishop Designate
Joseph Lee Shannon

Prelate, Nebraska Eastern
Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction



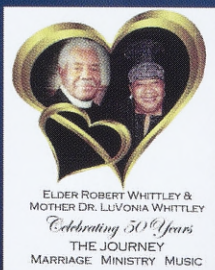
Bishop Designate
William Henry Watson, III

Prelate, Texas Northwest
Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction



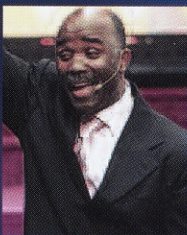
Bishop Carlis & Mother Mary Moody

Family and friends gathered from across the country, and the surrounding cities of Illinois to celebrate with Bishop Carlis and Mother Mary Moody on the occasion of their 55th Pastoral Anniversary. The gala affair was held at the Marriott Chicago in Schaumburg, Illinois on October 19th at 7:00 pm. The Prelate of Illinois First Jurisdiction, Bishop Ocie Booker, was the keynote speaker for the celebration. Bishop & Mother Moody are the founders of Faith Temple Church Of God In Christ in Evanston, Illinois and have served the Lord and His people faithfully for more than five decades. *The Whole Truth* extends its congratulations to Bishop & Mother Moody.



Elder Robert & Mother LuVonia Whittley

A celebration for a God ordained Journey was held to honor Elder Robert & Mother LuVonia Whittley for their service to God and His people. On Thursday, September 13th, at 7 o'clock in the evening, people gathered to pay tribute to the couple at Freedom Temple Church Of God In Christ in Chicago, Illinois. In an age where fifty percent of marriages end in divorce, their lives have been, and are an inspiration to young couples everywhere. A dynamic duo in ministry, *The Whole Truth* salutes these two fine people and pray that God continues to bless them as they continue their journey together.



Bishop Otis
Lockett, Sr.

"The Legacy of Helping Others"

By Christine Williams

"...I have found... a man after mine own heart, which shall fulfill all my will." Acts 13:22b

On Friday, October 12, 2012, a man of impeccable integrity and character, Bishop Otis Lockett, Sr., who possessed a supernatural ability to peel open the layers of scripture and dig out the fruit of the written word to gift the listeners with an exquisite, life-sustaining meal departed this life for life with his heavenly Father.

During his life here on earth and with this skill of uncustomary integrity and character, he built a habitation for God in the very hearts of the many sons and daughters of his ministry. He often said his God-given purpose in life was to help people. If you consider the ministries of Single Women's homes for unwed mothers, Single Men's homes, food bank, 24-hour prayer line, Malachi House, Positive Direction for Youth and Family, etc. you would say he fulfilled that purpose. Instead I would like you to meet "Suicide" known for his weapons and confrontations, the backslidden preacher's kid shacking up with the mother of his first two children, a high rolling drug dealer running the streets of Charlotte, the drug addicts, alcoholics, abusers and convicted felons. When I make the introductions will you recognize the above in the life of one of his closest elders? He is a trustee, devoted "second man", the one God gifted to Bishop Otis Lockett, Sr. when he prayed "give me one man to stand with me no matter what." Could you reconcile the old man with another one of his trustees? What about the Pastors, Elders, Missionaries, Auxiliary Leaders, and members? Bishop Otis Lockett, Sr. helped people.

His legacy continues on in his wife, Missionary and First Lady Barbara T. Lockett, in his natural children, Dr. Faith Gardner, Supt Otis Lockett, Jr., Elder Joshua Lockett, his grandchildren and the sons and daughters birthed into the kingdom of God through his love for people and living a life devoted to being a disciple of Christ. Documented in history are the degrees, honors and many accomplishments, but I dare to say what matters most is the spiritual and apostolic legacy he built in the hearts and minds of the people he touched. I believe that our heavenly Father found In Bishop Otis Lockett, Sr. "... a man after mine own heart, which shall fulfill all my will." What is his legacy? He helped people. When you see the lives he has touched you have to realize that the legacy will live on forever.



> Superintendent McLendon Winbush, Sr.
First Jurisdiction of Louisiana



> Bishop Paul L. Martin
Prelate, Hawaii Jurisdiction



> Mother Ruthe Sanders
First Lady Indiana Second Jurisdiction



> Bishop B. R. Benbow
Prelate, California Southwest

LIST OF APPROVED CANDIDATES FOR 2012 ELECTION*



Trustees 21

1. Anderson, Kendall Elder
2. Barnes, Cari Ms.
3. Burns, Darin Elder
4. Davis, Peter Johnson Dr.
5. Dean, Robert Elder
6. Golden, Michael Jr Elder
7. Goodwyn, Thomas Elder
8. Hall, David Elder
9. Johnson, Timothy Elder
10. Jones, Sandra Mrs.
11. Law, Sylvia Mrs.
12. Litzsey, Aaron Elder
13. Lowe, Georgia Mrs.
14. Newman, Kenneth Elder
15. Shepard, Josephus Elder
16. Smith, Amos Elder
17. Strickland, Jerome Supt.
18. Timmons, Melton Supt.

19. Walls, Dwight Supt.
20. Watson, William III Supt.
21. Williams, Kenneth Elder

General Board 22

1. Adebanjo, George Bishop
2. Blake, Charles Edward Bishop
3. Brooks, Phillip Aquila Bishop
4. Bryant, Prince Bishop
5. Cahoon, William T Bishop
6. Daniels, Sedgwick Bishop
7. Green, Dwight Bishop
8. Hardy, G Wesley Bishop
9. Haynes, J Neaul Bishop
10. Johnson, Martin Luther Bishop
11. Kyles, Rufus Bishop
12. Macklin, Jerry Wayne Bishop
13. McKinney, George Dallas Bishop
14. Porter, Brandon Bishop

15. Sheard, J Drew Bishop
16. Smith, Felton Bishop
17. Thomas, Ted Bishop
18. Wells, Nathaniel Bishop
19. White, Frank Otha Bishop
20. Williams, Matthew Bishop
21. Winbush, Roy L H Bishop
22. Wooten, Lawrence Bishop

General Secretary

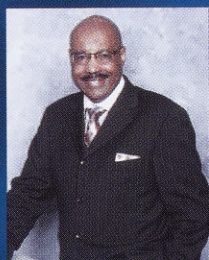
1. Lyles, Joel Bishop

Financial Secretary

1. White, Frank Anthone Bishop

Treasurer 2

1. Patterson, Charles Elder
2. Madkins, Jerry B. Jr. Elder



INTEGRAL MISSION AND THE COMMUNITY: LOCAL CHURCH, LOCAL CHANGE, GLOBAL IMPACT

Bishop E. Charles Connor
Justice, National Judiciary Board
Prelate, St. Lucia Eastern Caribbean Jurisdiction

The overarching theme: Integral Mission and the Community:

local church, local change, global impact, is chosen with the intention of looking at the heart and face of integral missions. It is important that we understand and reflect on how we must practically apply the great commission of Jesus Christ during these turbulent times around the globe. The challenge of asking if grass root involvement will have an impact, the answer is evident and the answer is a resounding yes;

"An **Integral Mission**" has become widely accepted as an expression that points to what we may regard as the DNA of God's mission committed to the Church of Jesus Christ—a mission that integrates the proclamation and the demonstration of the Gospel, word and deed, faith and works, justice and mercy.

"**Community**", pointing to the Church as the community of Jesus Christ, but also to hu-

mankind, created by God, fallen in sin but loved by God. The greater community is our global community and the Church Of God In Christ through its many foreign Jurisdictions has defined what our approach and spiritual neighborhood should look like.

"**Local church**" as pointing to the congregation of disciples or Saints of Jesus Christ who acknowledge Him as the Lord of all creation and every aspect of life, and who are both called out of the world and sent into the world as citizens of the Kingdom of God in a specific place at a particular time. And as it relates to missions, the local church is truly the lynchpin of missions' accomplishments. Any local church that is not fully engaged in foreign missions is missing one of the greatest growth factors of their church.

"**Local change**" as pointing to the transformation of values and Godly lifestyles that the Spirit of God brings about on a personal and community levels through the local church beginning in its

own neighborhood.

"**Global impact**" as referring to the impact that the Gospel of Jesus Christ is expected to produce all over the world as a result of local churches working in partnership with one another and the foreign work.

By God's design, the local church is the community of disciples of Jesus Christ called to embody the values and lifestyle of the Kingdom of God and thus to participate in God's transforming mission in its own local place and extending around the world. To the extent to which local churches are faithful to that vocation, they can aspire to produce a global impact. As we reflect on all we have accomplished, let us pray that God will use the learning shared to encourage the Church, and indeed the global church to collaborate with God, and to find practical ways to work in partnership with one another so we may do what the Lord requires of all people: to do justice, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly before Him.

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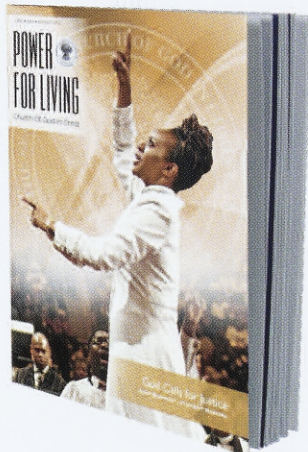
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and Great was the Company that Published it. - Psalm 68:11

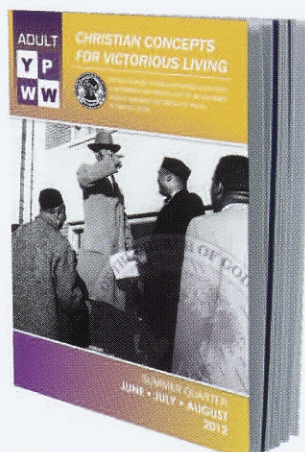
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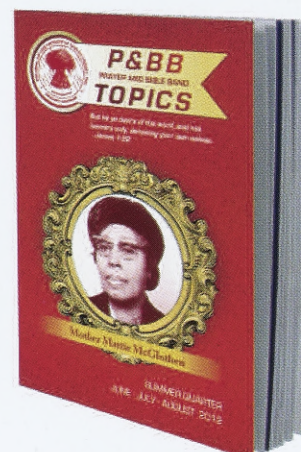
Power for Living



YPWW

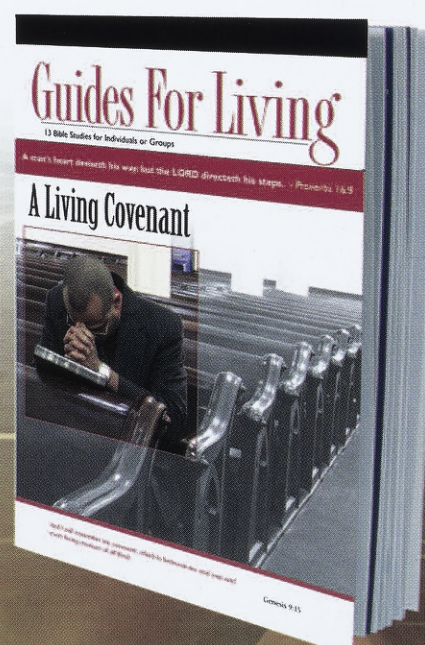
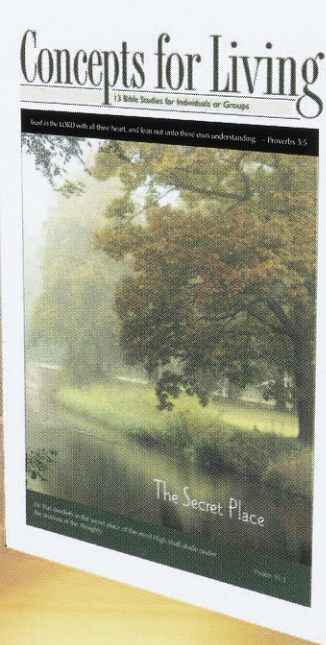
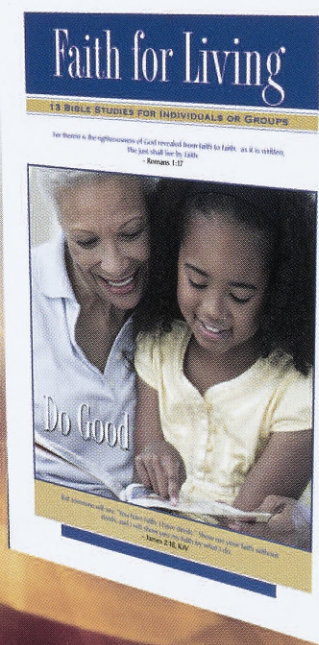


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Music Matters Pick 10

By Mr.C and Billboard

Ten Mighty Sounds of God

Some of gospel's most influential and undeniable talents are affiliated with The Church of God in Christ. Whether through missions, education, community service or ministry, COGIC boasts some of the most gifted names on the gospel music tapestry. In fact, many of us have received life-changing inspiration through their resonating music that continues to strike chords in our souls.



1

Take Me to the King

Tamela Mann

A simply beautiful song with amazing lyrics, this song reminds its listeners that no matter what you may be going through, Take it to the master and He'll see you through. Tamela Mann brings us immense feeling and great encouragement with this instant classic. This song is a must listen and download, guaranteed to have you hitting the repeat button.



2

Awesome

Pastor Charles Jenkins & Fellowship Chicago

An awesome song with a great message that is able to minister to anyone at the point of their need. This chant simply tells the world of the amazing power of our God by declaring Him awesome. The lovely melody and sincerity of the song makes this a must listen and download. Thumbs up for, "Awesome".



3

Life & Favor

John P. Kee and New Life

John P. Kee once again shows us that he knows how to put a song together. Keep doing what you do, making real gospel music.



4

It's Not Over

Israel & New Breed Featuring James Fortune & Jason Nelson

Why does everything have to sound the same? Who made it first? Is this the only way to make a good album star power?

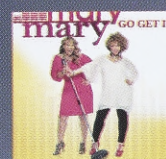


5

Hold On

James Fortune & FIYA Featuring Monica & Fred Hammond

Monica, did you record this after you left the club, looking for artist to sing the Gospel.



6

Go Get It

Mary Mary

Best RnB song in today's church. Soul Train award worthy.



7

Shifting the Atmosphere

Jason Nelson

Great pick for personal devotion.

MUSIC MATTERS' FEATURED ARTIST >

Tamela Mann



8

Let the Church Say Amen

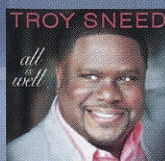
Andrae Crouch featuring Marvin Winans
Amazing song, great message.



9

Great and Mighty

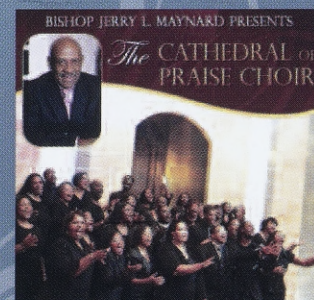
Byron Cage
Absolutely right, GREAT and MIGHTY is our GOD.



10

Lay It Down

Troy Sneed
Nothing worth writing home about.



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presents
The Cathedral Of Praise Choir,
featuring
Michelle Prather



BISHOP J. DREW
Sheard

CANDIDATE FOR GENERAL BOARD

"It's A God Thing"



*"The steps of a good man are ordered by
the LORD: and he delighteth in his way."*

Psalms 37:23

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www.geicogic.org

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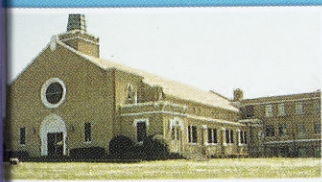
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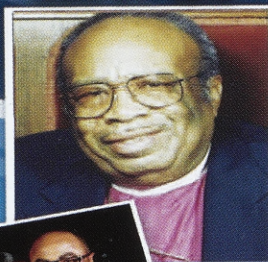
NORTH MEMPHIS



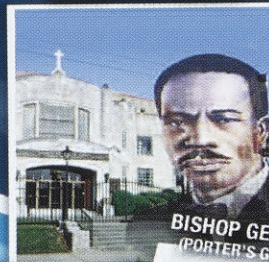
EAST MEMPHIS



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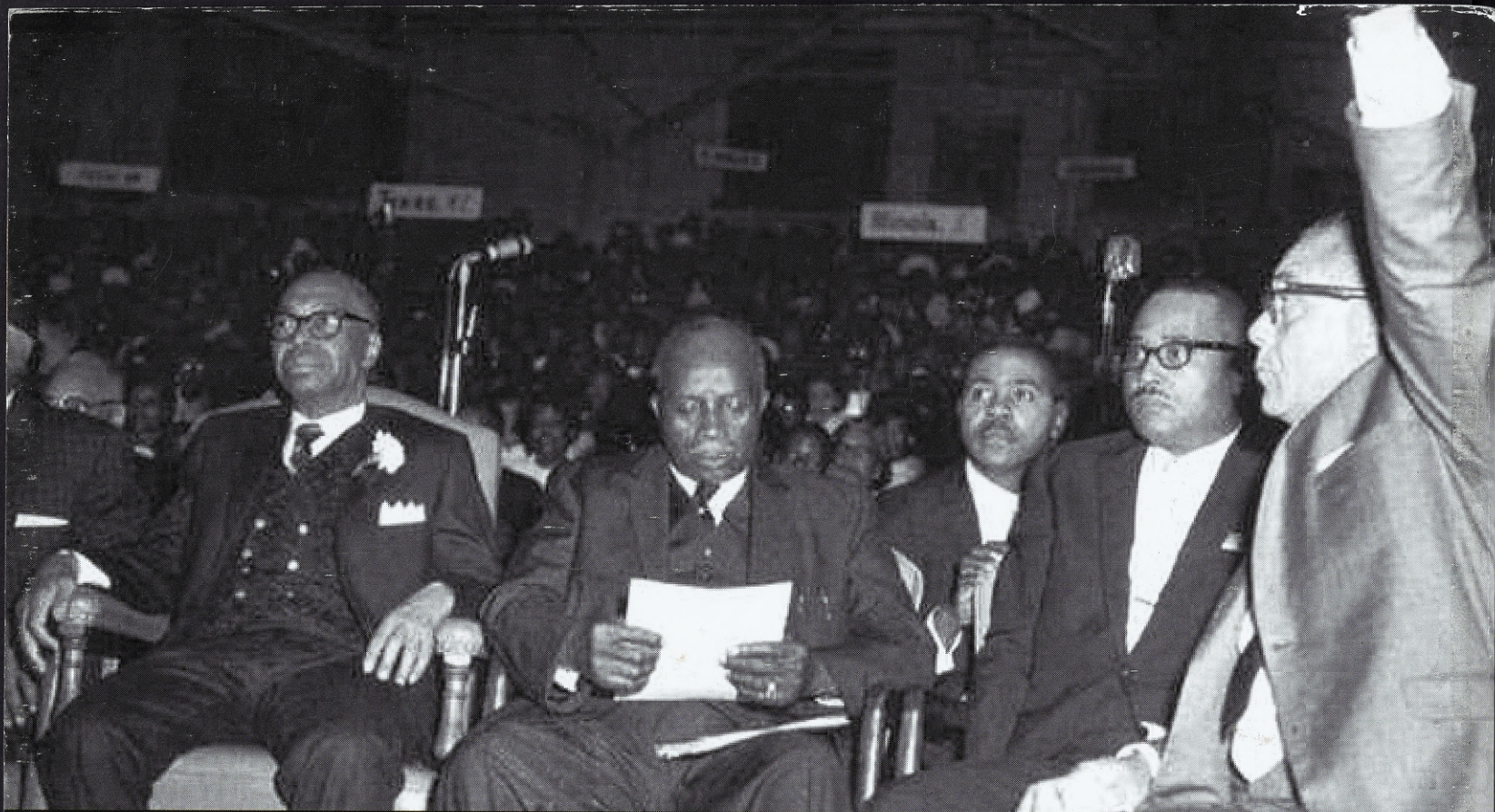
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 - Elder Ron Owens

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